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celeb buzz pg 30

Sex over talent not ScarJo's thing

Smog deaths to skyrocket, study says

HEALTH A major medical report is warning the number of deaths related to air pollution is set to soar in the coming decades, with a cumulative death toll of 800,000 Canadians by 2031. A study released yesterday by the Canadian Medical Association says smog will also drain billions of dollars from Canada's economy and health-care system in medical costs and lost productivity. The vast majority of smog-related deaths will be seniors aged 65 years and older because they are more vulnerable to heart problems, the report says.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Beijing pg 16

Canada's swimming hope sinks

Food pg 22

Ribs, corn a super couple

Metro Homes pg 17

Get protected from rain

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Good Charlotte **Pumpin' it up**

MUCH MUSIC PHOTO

U.S. rockers Good Charlotte pump out the thrash during MuchOnDemand yesterday at Much Music studios in Toronto.

$900M legal bomb dropped over blast

Residents suing propane firm, government bodies

Desperate for some resolve after an explosion at a propane facility shattered their lives this weekend, Downsview residents are seeking more than $900 million in class-action lawsuits against Sunrise Propane and government bodies they feel allowed the company to operate in their neighbourhood.

At least four class-action suits were filed in court yesterday. Some name Sunrise Propane Industrial Gases and other companies listed as operating on the Murray Rd. site. Others include the city of Toronto, the province of Ontario and the Technical Standards and Safety Authority.

Also yesterday, the TSSA said Sunrise was issued "cease and desist" orders in 2006 for violations.

The various suits claim the defendants are liable for income loss, personal injuries, diminution in property value and long-term financial damage. Some also claim negligence and nuisance.

"My parents have not been let back into their house and I don't think they ever will."
Plaintiff John Santoro

"My parents have not been let back into their house and I don't think they ever will," said John Santoro, 44, at a news conference yesterday.

Santoro and his mother, Giuseppina, are the representative plaintiffs in an estimated $300-million class-action suit against Sunrise Propane Energy Group Inc. and the city.

Pitch and his colleague Richard Bogoroch, a personal injury lawyer, said hundreds have already joined the lawsuit, but they anticipate thousands will eventually take part.

City spokesperson Francine Antonio said the city wouldn't comment on pending legal action. Sunrise Propane spokesperson Danny Roth said the firm had not yet received notice of any of the lawsuits.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

MORE COVERAGE, PG. 3

Canadian workers killed in ambush

One woman was known the world over as an authority on education for women and girls in conflict zones. The other signed up recently to help disabled Afghan children.

Both were Canadians, killed yesterday by Taliban fighters who pumped dozens of bullets into their white SUV bearing the markings of the International Rescue Committee, a New York-based humanitarian organization.

The five gunmen, armed with Kalashnikov rifles, also killed an American-Trinidadian woman who co-ordinated children's programs, along with their Afghan driver.

The assault on two clearly marked aid vehicles happened on the main road in Logar province, south of Kabul.

One of the victims was British-born Jacqueline Kirk, 40, of Montreal. Kocher said Kirk, a dual British and Canadian national, had been the education program adviser for the IRC since 2004.

Also killed was Canadian Shirley Case, 30, of Williams Lake, B.C.

The third woman killed was Nicole Dial, 32, a dual citizen of Trinidad and the United States.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

HANDOUT

Montreal's Jacqueline Kirk was among the aid workers killed in Afghanistan yesterday.

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D20 Topshelf small

Police collared a sexual assault suspect after he allegedly targeted a previous victim. On Saturday, police said a woman was in the area of Victoria Park Avenue and York Mills Road when a man made sexual comments at her. On Tuesday, the same man went up to her grabbed her from behind. Anthony Ramsay, 23, of Toronto is charged with sexual assault. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local

Loaded gun found in teen's knapsack

Police allege they found a loaded firearm in the knapsack of an 18-year-old driving around the east end Tuesday. Christopher Raphael of Toronto faces 12 charges, including unauthorized possession of a firearm, and possession of cocaine and marijuana. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Samsung Bills Toronto Kickoff Party
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Tomorrow's Metro

Movies

Phil Brown reviews Woody Allen's latest endeavour, Vicky Christina Barcelona.

metronews.ca

What's online today.

Watch video reports on the aid workers killed in a Taliban attack in Afghanistan, and on the annual Toastmasters' convention held in Calgary
Check movie showtimes, trailers and reviews at metronews.ca/movies
Read today's news highlights in Metro Snapshot

Lotteries

Lotto 6/49	01, 16, 28, 29, 39 & 45 Bonus 23
Ontario 49	04, 09, 14, 16, 17 & 30 Bonus 18
Ontario Pick 3	725
Ontario Pick 4	3751
Encore	7846423
Daily Keno	01, 02, 12, 18, 22, 27, 31, 37, 38, 43, 44, 47, 52, 54, 59, 61, 66, 67, 68, 70

These results are not official.

Feds to boot U.S. war deserter

A U.S. army deserter who fled to Canada to avoid fighting in Iraq was handed a deportation order yesterday, a move critics called an about-face for Canada, given its tradition of accepting refugees.

Jeremy Hinzman, along with his wife, son and baby girl, have been ordered by the Canada Border Services Agency to leave by Sept. 23.

Hinzman

"I'm tremendously disappointed," Hinzman said. "We've been here nearly five years ... But life goes on and we'll make the most of it wherever we go."

A handful of friends gathered outside the border services office west of Toronto, along with supporters from the War Resisters Support Campaign.

Lee Zaslofsky, co-ordinator for the campaign, who came to Canada 38 years ago during the Vietnam War, said it's the government, not the people, who have shut out war resisters.

"This is extremely stressful for them and for many, many other people who love and support them."

Danielle Norris, a spokeswoman for Citizenship and Immigration, said American war resisters generally wouldn't meet the criteria to be considered refugees.

The category is for those who have a well-founded fear of persecution and if removed, a real danger of torture or death, she said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Parliament's will

- War Resisters Support Campaign's Lee Zaslofsky called on the federal government to implement a motion passed by Parliament in June that called for a halt to deportations of war resisters.

Businesses want stop to Yonge/Bloor project

LAWYER A coalition of businesses wants to battle the city in court over a planned $25 million transformation of the Bloor and Yonge area, arguing the project is seriously affecting them and should be delayed.

A group calling itself Concerned About Bloor has retained noted lawyer Clayton Ruby to apply for a judicial review of the city's decision to undertake the project.

Ruby told reporters yesterday the group wants to see a proper environmental assessment of the project, adding that local businesses weren't consulted enough.

"We want the law to be conformed with. The law says before you can do a project of this magnitude and this much disruption and economic consequence, you have to do an environmental assessment, a study which consults the local people and has experts giving opinions," Ruby said. "Does it mean we forever want this not to go ahead? It doesn't mean that. It ... can go ahead, but only after environmental assessments have taken place and consultations have taken place."

The city says sufficient notice was given and the project didn't require such an assessment. City lawyer Darrel Smith said the city intends to oppose Ruby's notice of application.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Project aims

- The Bloor West Transformation project wil beautify a fashionable section of Bloor between Avenue Road and Church Street, removing parking spots to make way for wider sidewalks made of granite and adding new trees and light fixtures.

Roads blocked for NFL match

TODAY Police will be tackling traffic today when the Buffalo Bills take on the Pittsburgh Steelers at the Rogers Centre at 7:30 p.m.

As per conditions set by the NFL, no cars will be allowed within 100 feet.

Closures include:

— Blue Jays Way, Front St. to Spadina Ave.
— Bremner Blvd., Lower Simcoe to Spadina Ave.
— Rees St., Bremner Blvd to Lake Shore Blvd. W.

Police urge fans to use TTC or Go Transit to get to the game. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Cannonball **Soaring champ**

SAUL PORTO/TOP NEWS

New cannonball champ Doug Bergmann, 29, of Edmonton leaps off the platform at Lake Share Pool in Toronto yesterday during the second annual Canadian Cannonball Championship.

Tempers explode at asbestos briefing

'SHUT UP' A media briefing at the site of a massive propane explosion in northwest Toronto degenerated into a shouting match between a public official and residents yesterday.

City Coun. Maria Augimeri was there to address concerns about asbestos after the hazardous material was found in the neighbourhood.

But she was confronted by several angry residents from the neighbourhood near the blast.

Augimeri accused one man of using the death of a firefighter for partisan purposes and told him to "shut up."

Sunday morning's blasts at Sunrise Propane Industrial Gases in the city's northwest end sent orange fireballs into the sky and displaced thousands of residents.

One firefighter died at the scene, and another body was found at the explosion site Monday night.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

CHARGES Three teens face more than 54 charges in connection with thefts from cars in Ajax on July 23, after officers found an abandoned locked vehicle in a parking lot with a laptop, electronic devices and a wallet. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

SEX DAY A group from Ontario is taking National Sex Day, Aug. 21, one step further and has secured a Lake Eerie camp ground for the weekend. Take A Bite of the Apple organizers are inviting couples to HedoNorth.com, a three-day event for couples to celebrate together. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Robbery suspect takes high road: Cops

Halton Regional police said a suspect walked away during an alleged robbery. A man went into Joe's Market, at 570 Kerr St. in Oakville, and threatened the male store worker. When the employee started to advance toward the suspect, he ran away, police said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mississauga heeds call of wild

Just five minutes from Square One Shopping Centre, a group of gardeners have recreated a wildlife sanctuary, an animal oasis in the heart of urban Mississauga.

Surrounded by highways and two-storey homes, the 150-acre Riverwood Park is home to thousands of animals, from big predators (like coyotes and hawks) to their tiny prey (small birds and mammals).

"We pretty much have got just about (all the animals) that would have been here in the 1860s," says Dave Taylor, the park's education program director and resident naturalist. "Except wild turkeys and black bears."

And if recent efforts continue, Taylor says, even those bears might be wandering through the park soon.

"We pretty much have got just about (all the animals) that would have been here in the 1860s."
Naturalist Dave Taylor

Just five years ago, a large swath of the land was an old wheat field filled with overgrown weeds. Dividing the forestry from the nearby Credit River, this field made parts of the park uninhabitable by acting as a natural barrier to many of the creatures that now live there.

But, since then, the city has worked with the Credit Valley Conservation Authority and a local charitable group — the Mississauga Garden Council — to help transform the old field and the park.

For their part, the city and the conservation authority do the heavy lifting maintenance, spending millions of dollars in recent years to cut the park's many lawns and to refurbish its many paths.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

West Nile case found in Markham

HEALTH The first human case of West Nile Virus this year in Ontario has been confirmed after a 28-year-old Markham woman tested positive for the disease. The woman was believed to have contracted the virus in the Major Mackenzie Dr. and Highway 48 area, according to York Region's community and health services department.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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199 Bay St. (Commerce Court)
130 King St. W
363 Front St. W (City Place)
5015 Yonge St.
5 - 500 Church St.
3 - 2610 Weston Rd.
1006 St. Clair Ave. W
25 Davenport Rd.

WEST

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Mapleview Mall
Milton Crossroads Centre

Brampton
Bramalea City Centre
Shoppers World
60 Great Lakes Dr. (inside Home Depot)
2880 Queen St. E (Hwy. 7 & Airport Rd.)
10 - 80 Pertosa Dr.

Mississauga
Dixie Outlet Mall
Erin Mills Town Centre
Heartland Town Centre
Square One
Winston Churchill & 401
Woodchester Plaza
6535B Mississauga Rd.
G16 - 3024 Hurontario St.
1A - 1370 Dundas St. E
9 - 34 Bristol Rd. E
2 - 4920 Tomken Rd.
101 - 6200 Dixie Rd.

Oakville
Oakville Place
RioCan Burloak
299 Lakeshore Rd. E
18 - 2501 Third Line
D3 - 2335 Trafalgar Rd.
760 Pacific Rd.

NORTH

Maple
3 - 10019 Keele St.

Markham
Georgian Mall
Markville Shopping Centre
Pacific Mall
Upper Canada Mall
21 - 95 Royal Crest Crt.

Richmond Hill
Hillcrest Shopping Centre
4 - 11005 Yonge St.
6 - 25 West Beaver Creek Rd.
9301 Bathurst St.

Thornhill
Promenade Mall
7171 Yonge St.
8117 Yonge St.

Vaughan
Vaughan Mills Outlet Mall
3 - 4000 Hwy. 7

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'Outstanding leader' Hillier wins defence and security award

Former chief of defence staff Rick Hillier is this year's recipient of the Vimy Award, which recognizes individuals that make outstanding contributions to national defence and security and is awarded by the Conference of Defence Associations Institute. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Tire recycling tax rolls in

Ontario is set to introduce a province-wide tire recycling program that will ensure most scrap tires are recycled. It's estimated that just half of the 12 million tires Ontarians throw away each year are recycled, while the rest are burned as fuel. The program will charge a $2 to $5 per tire fee — but most consumers won't feel it, since tire retailers already privately charge similar fees. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

VICTORIA Embattled Victoria police chief Paul Battershill quit mysteriously Wednesday. He has been on paid administrative leave since October, and was facing a disciplinary hearing Monday. Details about his departure weren't disclosed due to a settlement agreement. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Lessons from 2003 blackout

OTTAWA Five years after the massive August 2003 blackout, preventative measures have dimmed the prospect of another widespread power shortage today, says the North American Electric Reliability Corp. (NERC), the overseer of North America's interconnected energy grid.

NERC says beefed-up reliability standards have been the most significant development to come out of the blackout, which affected 50 million people in Ontario and the northeastern United States.

Reliability standards are the minimum requirements needed to ensure a safe and stable power grid. That could be something as simple as specifying how much distance needs to be between treetops and power lines, NERC says.

PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A couple enjoys a candlelit dinner in Toronto on Aug. 14, 2003, during a major power failure. Some of the affected 50 million North Americans learned to love life without light or television.

The 2003 blackout began on Aug. 13 with a sagging transmission line brushing against some trees in northern Ohio.

In a 2004 report, a panel deemed the power outage "preventable," and found Ontario's mandatory reliability standards a model for system operators. THE CANADIAN PRESS

National organ donation database in works

TORONTO The Canadian Council for Donation and Transplantation and Canadian Blood Services will merge to create a unified blood, organ and tissue donation and transplantation service in Canada.

The five-year, $35-million plan, funded by federal, provincial and territorial ministries of health, is being heralded by the community as "very positive."

Many organs are already shared across the country, but are done so on an informal basis. Organ sharing currently operates on "rudimentary information systems" through fax and telephone, says Frank Markel, president and CEO of Trillium Gift of Life, which oversees tissue and organ donations in Ontario. The added efficiency and larger pool will improve chances of saving lives with better infrastructure, he added.

Last year, 193 Canadians died waiting for a transplant, with 4,000 more on waitlists for an organ. THE CANADIAN PRESS

New rules allow greenbelt to grow

OTTAWA Municipal Affairs and Housing Minister Jim Watson unveiled rules that will allow for the expansion of Ontario's greenbelt.

The criteria give municipalities the tools to obtain provincial approval to protect forests, wetlands and farmlands.

Those opposed to expansion will have their say in the process, but Watson says the province won't entertain requests to remove areas from the greenbelt or reduce its size.

Watson says Oakville and Guelph have already expressed interest in the plan.

The greenbelt protects 7,200 square kilometres of agricultural and environmentally sensitive land. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

AFGHANISTAN The bodies of two Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan arrived at CFB Trenton in eastern Ontario on Wednesday afternoon. Master Cpl. Josh Roberts and Master Cpl. Erin Doyle, both members of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, were the 89th and 90th Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan. THE CANADIAN PRESS

OTTAWA Advertising executives testified that they were worried about the legality of the "in and out" advertising scheme the Conservatives wanted done, but were assured by Tories that it was legal. An ethics committee is investigating illegal cash transfers of election funds from the party to its candidates. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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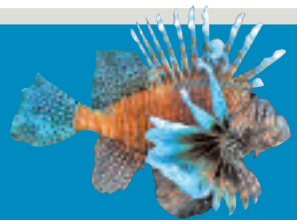
	Minimum purchase (before tax)	Fee	Minimum purchase (before tax)	Fee
4-7 months	N/A	N/A	$249.00	$39.99
8-14 months	$299.00	$29.99	$299.00	$69.99
15-29 months	$299.00	$49.99	$299.00	$99.99
30-44 months	$299.00	$69.99	$999.00	$129.99
45+ months	$299.00	$99.99	$2999.00	$149.99

Unabomber objects to cabin display at museum

Unabomber Theodore Kaczynski wrote a letter to a federal appeals court complaining about a Washington museum exhibit of the cabin where he plotted an 18-year bombing spree. He says the display violates his victims' wish to limit publicity about the case. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World



Fish invades Caribbean

The red lionfish is rapidly multiplying in the Caribbean's warm waters, swallowing native species, stinging divers and generally wreaking havoc on an ecologically delicate region. It is a tropical native of the Indian and Pacific oceans that probably escaped from a Florida fish tank.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. sends Georgia aid

The United States demanded yesterday that Russia end all military activities in neighbouring Georgia, while President George W. Bush ordered a massive U.S. aid program for Georgians devastated by the invasion.

With rapidly changing circumstances and uncertainty about Russia's commitment to a ceasefire, Bush also said he was sending Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to Tbilisi, the Georgian capital.

Both Bush and Rice warned Moscow not to impede the relief mission that the Pentagon is leading.

A U.S. C-17 military cargo plane loaded with supplies landed in Georgia yesterday, and Bush said Russia must ensure that "all lines of communication and transport, including seaports, roads and airports," remain open to let deliveries and civilians through. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kashmir **Hardliners wreak havoc**

RAJANISH KAKADE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Policemen detain an activist of Hindu hardline group Vishwa Hindu Parishad during a protest in Mumbai, India. Hindu hardliners stopped trains and blocked highways in Mumbai, New Delhi and other parts of India yesterday, demanding restoration of land to a Hindu shrine in the Indian Kashmir.

Arkansas Democrat killed

MURDER The chairman of the Arkansas Democratic party, Bill Gwatney, 49, died after being shot yesterday by a gunman who burst into the Little Rock state party headquarters.

The suspect, 51, was later shot dead after firing at police during a 50-kilometre highway chase.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dalai Lama says be firm with China

TIBET The Dalai Lama said yesterday that the world should be firm with China on human rights and freedoms but must also try to bring it into the "mainstream of world democracy."

During the Tibetan spiritual leader's current 12-day visit to France, he has told French deputies at a closed-door meeting that violence by Chinese authorities in Tibet continues.

At a news conference, the Dalai Lama said the international community "should be firm" with China on the issues of democracy, human rights, religious freedom and the rule of law.

"But we should not isolate China" and instead bring it into the international community with "genuine friendship," he said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

CHINA British journalist John Ray of ITV News was apparently mistaken by police for a protester, wrestled to the ground and briefly detained yesterday while trying to film a pro-Tibet demonstration by eight activists arrested near the main Olympics venue.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

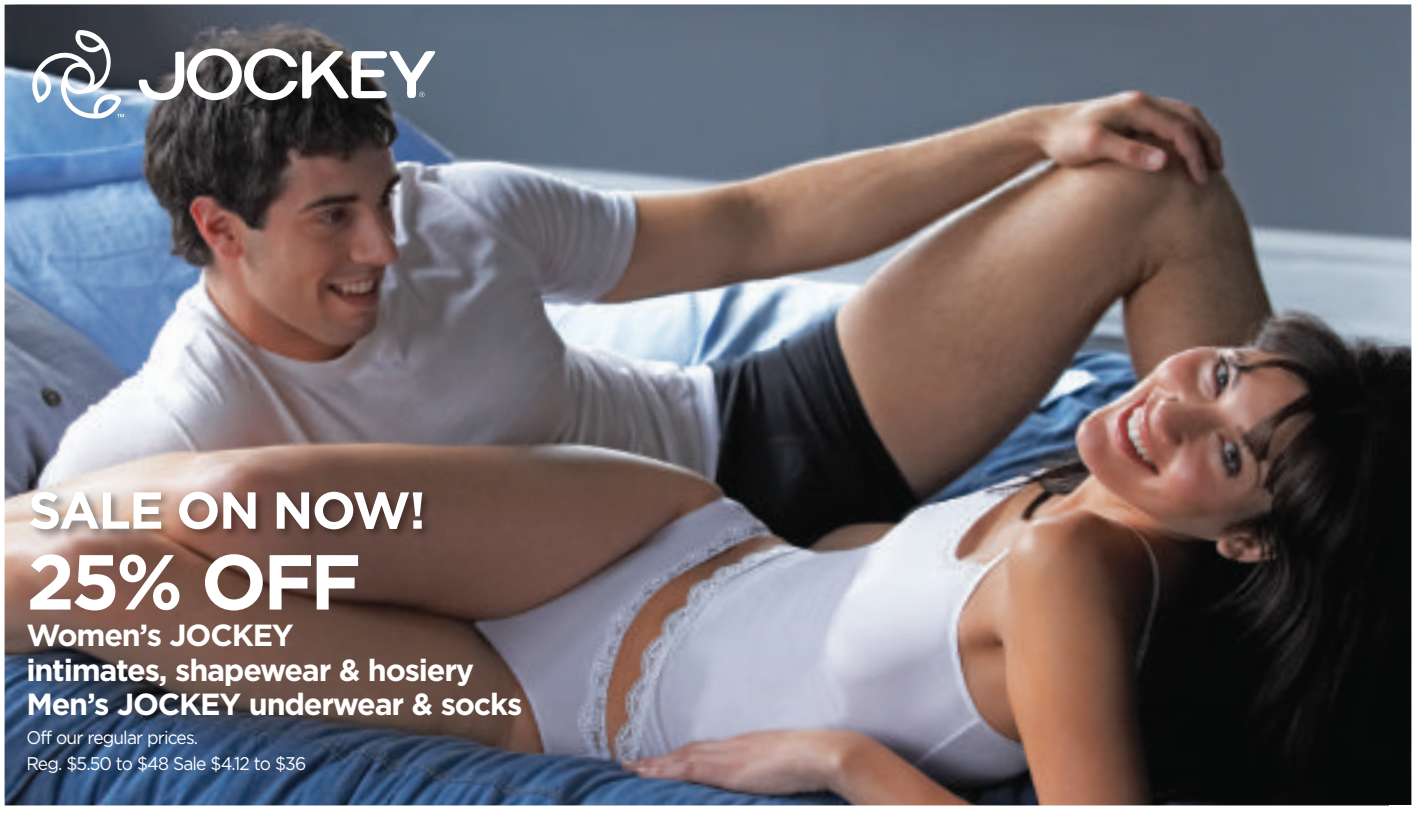
News in brief

POLITICS Syria and Lebanon agreed yesterday to establish full diplomatic relations for the first time. The decision to open embassies came during a landmark visit to Syria by Lebanese President Michel Suleiman. It was the first such visit by a Lebanese head of state in the more than three years since Syria withdrew its troops and ended decades of domination of Lebanon

DEATH Sandy Allen, the world's tallest woman at seven feet seven inches, died yesterday at age 53. Allen had been hospitalized in recent months as she suffered from a recurring blood infection, along with diabetes, breathing troubles and kidney failure.

PAKISTAN A missile strike on a suspected militant training camp near the Afghan border killed at least nine people, Pakistani military and intelligence officials said yesterday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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(416) 760-7450
919 Bay St.
(416) 657-4400
2266 Eglinton Ave. W.
(416) 784-4151
2397 Yonge St.
(416) 489-2255
604 Bloor St. W.
(416) 533-1656
548 Church St.
(416) 644-9094
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(416) 588-6668
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1451 Dundas St. W.
(416) 588-8989
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939 Eglinton Ave. E., Unit 106
(416) 467-9800
Gerrard Square
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(416) 466-8200
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(416) 971-9700
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(416) 406-2355
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(416) 934-1313
1268 St. Clair Ave. W.
(416) 652-2288
1350 St. Clair Ave. W.
(416) 651-2000
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(416) 322-9079
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(416) 506-0809
9A Yorkville Ave.
(416) 921-7559
386 Sheppard Ave. E.
(416) 512-0012
525 University Ave.
(416) 640-5998
55 Chauncey Ave.
(416) 231-5310
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Bloor West
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Toronto Eaton Centre
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Fewer Americans hit the road

Americans drove 19.6 billion fewer kilometres in June than the same month a year earlier, the Federal Highway Administration said yesterday. The 4.7 per cent decline has been attributed to peaking gas prices . THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

DOLLAR 0.03¢ C$ $94.12 US US$ $1.0625

OIL $116 US $2.99

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

In brief

EXPANSION Cargojet Income Fund, a freight transporter, says it's expanding its aircraft maintenance hangar at John C. Munroe Airport in Hamilton to accommodate new Boeing aircraft company is acquiring. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Biovail loses $25.3 million amid lower sales

DRUGS Biovail Corp. had a second-quarter loss of $25.3 million US as the drug company suffered from special legal and restructuring charges and a drop in sales.

Biovail's revenue fell by eight per cent to $186.1 million in the quarter ended June 30, down from $203 million in 2007.

The company said it expects decreases in its product sales for the next several quarters, mainly as a result of generic competition for the anti-depressant Wellbutrin XL.

Profitability was also hurt by $51.8 million for restructuring and $24.6 million for legal settlements. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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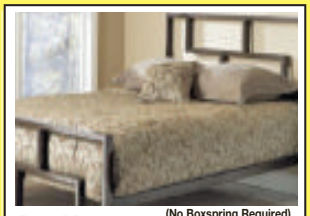
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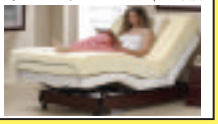

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Glitches for iPhone 3G

No Canadian complaints yet

Apple Inc. launched the iPhone 3G amid long line-ups and fanfare this summer, but unlike the device's initial debut, the computer and iPod-maker has experienced some uncharacteristic hiccups this time around.

After releasing a glitch-laden desktop synchronization service alongside the iPhone, the usually polished Apple is now facing questions over the performance of the device on high-speed third-generation, or 3G, networks.

The complaints are mainly from U.S. Internet blogs and chat rooms, where users have written about dropped calls and spotty reception on AT&T Inc.'s 3G network.

But Ken Dulaney, an analyst at Gartner Research, cautioned in an interview that it was difficult to determine whether the problem was with the iPhone itself, or the wireless network it runs on.

Another analyst, Richard Windsor of Nomura International PLC, speculated in a recent note to clients that the culprit could be an "immature chipset and radio protocol stack" made by one of Apple's suppliers.

Apple has declined to comment. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Nortel picks up Pingtel to boost communications

TELECOM Nortel Networks has acquired the Pingtel Corp. software business from Bluesocket Inc. in a move to boost its unified communications portfolio.

The Canadian telecommunications equipment maker said yesterday that Pingtel employees will be integrated into Nortel's location in Billerica, Mass.

Financial terms of the deal were not disclosed.

The acquisition will enable Nortel to further develop software-based solutions, said David Downing, general manager, Enterprise and SMB Communications Systems, Nortel.

In the short term, Pingtel will handle parts of Nortel's small-to-medium business communications. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Exec says Ford can brave downturn

AUTO Despite a slumping U.S. economy, tight credit and high gas prices, Mark Fields, Ford Motor Co.'s president of the Americas, said the company has enough cash to weather losses and make a profit.

Ford plans to make money on new models it will bring to the U.S. from Europe starting in 2010, he said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

More flooding at Cigar Lake mine

URANIUM Work has been temporarily suspended at Cameco Corp.'s flooded Cigar Lake uranium mine in Saskatchewan because higher volumes of water were found to be flowing into the mine.

Cigar Lake could produce close to 10 per cent of the world's uranium supply. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Tigers' Zumaya goes on 15-day disabled list
Tigers' reliever Joel Zumaya needs a little more time off. The hard-throwing Detroit reliever went back on the 15-day disabled list yesterday with soreness in the right shoulder that was surgically repaired during the off-season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

Rays' Crawford out for season

Tampa Bay's Carl Crawford, left, will undergo surgery on his right hand Thursday and will be sidelined at least until the final series of the regular season — maybe longer. Crawford, a two-time all-star and four-time AL stolen base champion, was injured on his final at-bat Saturday in Seattle. He was placed on the 15-day disabled list on Sunday, and was joined there the following day by teammate Evan Longoria. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: JONATHAN P. KUEHLEIN, SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Jays hang on to top Tigers

Toronto's bullpen nearly blows rookie Purcey's solid start

Blue Jays 4 Tigers 3

The Jays won the game, but may have lost their most effective reliever to a freak accident last night.

Scott Downs, pitching in his third consecutive game for the first time this year, came on in the ninth to close out a dominating Toronto outing.

With the score 4-0 and with a man on first, Maggio Ordonez hit a ball down the right field line. Placido Polanco sped toward third. Downs ran from the mound to cover behind the plate.

As he did so, he attempted to turn on wet grass and appeared to twist his right knee. He skipped awkwardly and fell in obvious pain. Gesturing frustratedly, he was attended to for several minutes by trainer George Poulis. Downs had to be supported as he limped off the field. Brandon League entered the game and closed out the eventual 4-3 Toronto victory. A casual drop in the outfield by Alex Rios made the ending far tenser than it should have been.

It was a very positive night for another Toronto pitcher.

Rookie David Purcey tossed the best start of his major league career. His evening was ended prematurely by a 45-minute rain delay. But through six innings, Purcey allowed only two hits and no runs.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

DUANE BURLESON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Toronto Blue Jays starter David Purcey pitches a solid game against the Detroit Tigers last night, allowing only two hits over six innings as the Jays beat the Tigers 4-3.

Williams to Cavs in trade: Report

NBA The Cleveland Cavaliers are getting some help for LeBron James.

High-scoring Milwaukee point guard Mo Williams is headed to Cleveland to join James as part of a three-team trade involving Milwaukee and Oklahoma City.

Agents for Williams and Desmond Mason said yesterday a six-player deal is being finalized that reshapes the rebuilding Bucks while giving Cleveland an additional scoring threat and sends Mason to Oklahoma.

In exchange for Williams the Bucks will receive Damon Jones from Cleveland along with guard Luke Ridnour and forward Adrian Griffin from Oklahoma City. Oklahoma City will get veteran forward Joe Smith from Cleveland and Mason from Milwaukee.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada downs Sweden 4-3 at under-18 tourney

The Canadian under-18 hockey team was a pretty disappointed group when it left last year's Memorial of Ivan Hlinka tournament. This year's team has taken a big step to experiencing a much better feeling. Garrett Mitchell scored the winning goal yesterday as Canada edged defending champion Sweden 4-3. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Bills roll into town

Starting tonight, the Bills in Toronto series will bring eight Buffalo Bills exhibition and regular season games to the Rogers Centre over the next five seasons. Rogers paid the Bills $78 million to host the games, which means the Bills made money on tonight's game before the first ticket was sold.

And that means filling the Rogers Centre for preseason games like tonight's technically isn't the Bills' responsibility —it's Rogers'.

Still, the Bills showed up in big numbers to a media meet-and-greet, hustling hard to hype tonight's game.

Just inside the hotel ballroom full of reporters the team's lone Canadian, defensive lineman and British Columbia native Cory Mace, explained to reporters that he didn't think the Bills series threatened the CFL.

Nearby, his teammate Marcus Stroud leaned back in a chair and answered questions, a pair of gold-trimmed shades hiding his eyes.

Across the room, starting safety Donte Whitner stared at the floor. As media crowded around guys like Brandon, quarterback Trent Edwards and head coach Dick Jauron, Whitner barely looked awake.

But when a reporter approached he snapped to attention, explaining that he wasn't sleeping, just sending a text message.

He also said that even though the Bills are the biggest pro sports team in Buffalo, they don't receive anywhere near the attention that Toronto reporters lavished on them yesterday.

"It feels different," he said. "When we come to the stadium, there's maybe five, 10 (reporters). So I'm excited."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

JIM ROSS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Buffalo Bills head coach Dick Jauron talks to media in Toronto yesterday.

SCOREBOARD

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Tampa Bay	71	47	.602	—
Boston	70	51	.575	2½
N.Y. Yankees	64	57	.529	8½
TORONTO	**61**	**59**	**.508**	**11**
Baltimore	56	62	.479	14½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Chicago Sox	66	52	.559	—
Minnesota	67	53	.558	—
Detroit	58	61	.487	8½
Cleveland	54	65	.454	12½
Kansas City	54	65	.454	12½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
L.A. Angels	75	43	.636	—
Texas	61	60	.504	15½
Oakland	55	63	.466	20
Seattle	45	74	.378	30½

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Philadelphia	64	55	.538	—
N.Y. Mets	64	56	.533	½
Florida	63	57	.525	1½
Atlanta	55	65	.458	9½
Washington	44	77	.364	21

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Chicago Cubs	73	47	.608	—
Milwaukee	69	51	.575	4
St. Louis	66	56	.541	8
Houston	60	59	.504	12½
Pittsburgh	55	65	.458	18
Cincinnati	53	68	.438	20½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Arizona	61	58	.513	—
L.A. Dodgers	60	59	.504	1
Colorado	53	68	.438	9
San Francisco	50	68	.424	10½
San Diego	46	73	.387	15

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

TORONTO at Detroit
Minnesota 4 N.Y. Yankees 2
Boston 8 Texas 4
Baltimore 6 Cleveland 1
Kansas City at Chicago Sox
Tampa Bay at Oakland
Seattle at L.A. Angels

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Chicago Cubs 10 Atlanta 2 (1st gm)
Pittsburgh 5 Cincinnati 2
Chicago Cubs 8 Atlanta 0 (2nd gm)
N.Y. Mets 12 Washington 0
St. Louis at Florida
San Francisco at Houston
Arizona at Colorado
Milwaukee at San Diego
Philadelphia at L.A. Dodgers

TODAY'S GAMES

AMERICAN LEAGUE

TORONTO at Detroit, 1:05
Kansas City at Chicago White Sox, 2:05
Tampa Bay at Oakland, 3:35
Texas at Boston, 7:05
Baltimore at Cleveland, 7:05

NATIONAL LEAGUE

San Francisco at Houston, 2:05
Arizona at Colorado, 3:05
Milwaukee at San Diego, 3:35
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh, 7:05
Chicago Cubs at Atlanta, 7:10
N.Y. Mets at Washington, 7:10
St. Louis at Florida, 7:10
Philadelphia at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10

CFL

WEEK 8

TONIGHT'S GAME

Hamilton at Winnipeg, 8

TOMORROW'S GAME

Montreal at **TORONTO**, 7:30

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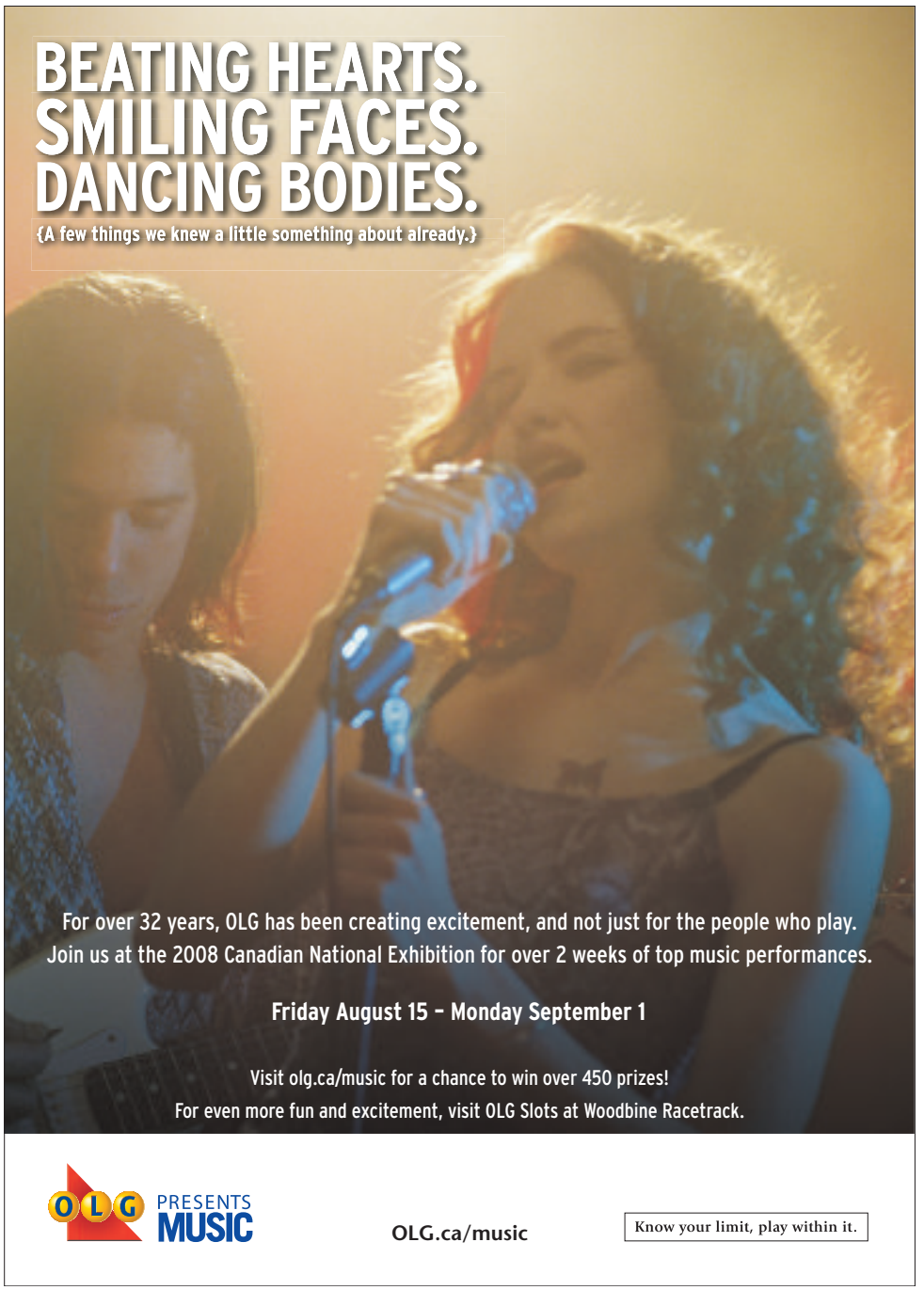
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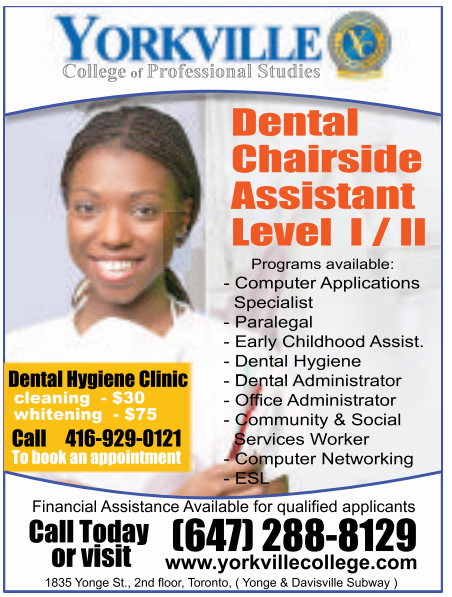
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Baseball

Scott Thorman of Cambridge, Ont., hit a three-run home run and Mike Saunders of Victoria, added a solo homer as Canada opened its preliminary round yesterday with a 10-0 rout of host China. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Beijing Games

EDITOR: JONATHAN P. KUEHLEIN, SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Medal count

Rank	Nation				Total
#1	U.S.	10	8	11	29
#2	China	17	5	5	27
#3	South Korea	6	6	1	13
#4	Australia	4	2	6	12
#5	Russia	2	7	3	12
#6	Italy	4	4	3	11
#7	France	1	7	3	11
#8	Germany	6	1	2	9
#9	Japan	4	2	3	9
#10	Britain	2	2	3	7
#11	North Korea	1	2	4	7
#12	Netherlands	1	1	3	5
#13	Romania	1	1	2	4
#14	Switzerland	1	0	3	4
#15	Ukraine	0	0	4	4
#16	Georgia	2	0	1	3
#17	Azerbaijan	1	2	0	3
#18	Zimbabwe	0	3	0	3
	Canada	0	0	0	0

(Count at the end of Day 5)

Lack of funds hamstring Canada

Are our athletes cursed or is cash shortage to blame for medal drought?

YorkReport

Marty York

marty.york@metronews.ca

The entire Canadian team, it seems, will collect fewer medals at the Beijing Olympics than U.S. swimmer Michael Phelps.

And this, I suggest, sucks.

Our athletes are emulating our dollar, falling shamefully below the Americans.

Even Mike Brown of Perth, Ont., came oh-so-close to a medal early this morning in the men's 200-metre breaststroke, but is also without any hardware. He was fourth.

Perhaps these are pleasant days for manufacturers of anti-depressants in this country, but I can't think of any other Canadians who could possibly be enjoying what's been happening to our representatives in Beijing.

Brent Hayden was supposed to be a savior of sorts, right? A world-class swimmer from B.C. who tied for gold in the 100-metre freestyle at last year's world aquatic championship, Hayden gave us hope, especially in his commercials. But he didn't even earn the chance to swim for a medal after fizzling in the semifinal. He also was part of the Canadian men's 4x200-metre relay swim team, which finished a disappointing fifth.

Hayden has assured us in interviews that he'll get over his disappointment. But will we?

What if all 300-plus Canadian Olympians follow Hayden's strokes and come up short in China?

I mean, this is like a bad nightmare. Or a swift kick to the testicles.

Even if you don't have any.

Just ask Canadian fencer Sherraine Schalm, who entered the Olympics ranked fifth in her sport but who was subdued by Hungary's Ildiko Mincza-Nebald.

"It's like I imagine being a man, it's like being kicked in the nuts repeatedly," Schalm lamented after her loss. "You feel like you want to curl up and die."

Who's cursed Canada?

Our field hockey team was ahead of Pakistan 1-0 before losing 3-1. And then Canadian player Ravi Kahlon got the horrifying news that his 39-year-old uncle died in a car accident in India.

And on and on it goes for Canada.

How come?

Well, a shortage of funds is the predominant feeling among Canada's athletes.

"It takes money to create opportunities, and more and more countries are streamlining funds to where the medals are," said Anna Rice, a Canadian badminton player whose stint in Beijing was short and not-so-sweet. "I think that's sad."

It is, especially for Canadian women, who don't receive as much financial support as their male counterparts. That's an issue on which I'll elaborate in a York Report in the near future.

In the meantime, for whatever reasons, our Olympians stink. Worse than China's air. And that's awfully bad.

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada's Brian Johns leans on teammate Brent Hayden during the men's 4x200-metre freestyle relay final yesterday in Beijing.

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Tennis

Swiss star Roger Federer, left, avenged a defeat four years ago at the Olympics by beating Tomas Berdych of the Czech Republic 6-3, 7-6 (4) yesterday to reach the quarter-finals. Spain's Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic of Serbia also moved on. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beijing Games

Sports in brief

ROWING The Canadian men's pair and women's eight have advanced to their respective finals in Beijing. The men's pair team of Dave Calder and Scott Frandsen won their semifinal yesterday, while the women's eight won their repechage. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Brown can't break Canada's goose egg

Ontarian less than a second out of bronze

Swimmer Mike Brown had held out the tantalizing hope of a medal to finally dent the goose egg put up by Canada at the Beijing Olympics.

The pride of Perth, Ont., looked in a perfect position to become the pride of Canada, too.

Brown looked so good in the semifinal a day earlier when he was the second-fastest qualifier with a time of 2:08.84 — one second faster than the Canadian record he'd set in the opening heat. Only three swimmers in history had ever gone faster.

The 24-year-old looked like a different swimmer in that race, showing a lot of power in every stroke as he ate up a lot of ground in the pool. The question was, did he shoot his best bullet before the final?

Hard to know for sure, this we do know: Brown just didn't have enough to get on the podium. He fell just 9/100ths of a second short in the men's 200-metre breaststroke final won for a second straight time by Kosuke Kitajima of Japan.

STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mike Brown of Perth, Ont., swims in the 200-metre breaststroke final early this morning in Beijing. He finished in fourth place, just 9/100ths off of the bronze medal.

Brown was fourth at every split in the race and, in the end, that's exactly where he ended up. Another fourth-place finish, seemingly the bane of Canada's existence as an Olympic sport nation.

Kitajima led throughout the race to win in a time of two minutes, 7.64 seconds, off his own world record. Brenton Rickard of Australia took the silver in 2:08.88, while Hugues Duboscq of France outtouched Brown at the wall to take the bronze in 2:08.94. Brown was fourth in 2:09.03.

Also in the pool today, Erica Morningstar of Calgary finished seventh in her 100 metre freestyle semifinal and was eliminated. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Art of rain absorption

Forward-thinking ways to reduce the destructive effects of runoff

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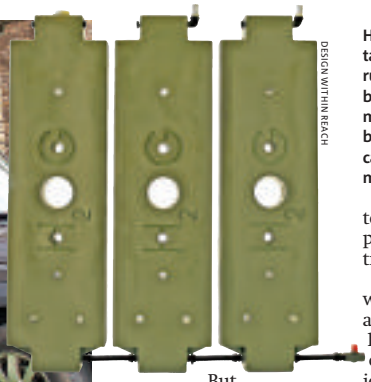
TRACY HANES/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Craig Marshall of Marshall Homes is shown mowing the driveway at the firm's LEED-certified house in Oshawa, Ont. Under the grass is a sturdy honeycombed permeable structure that lets you park your car on the grass without compacting and damaging the roots. Visit *marshallhomes.ca*.



DESIGN WITHIN REACH

High-rise dwellers can also take measures to reduce runoff. Left, the Rainwater Hog by Design Within Reach is a more compact take on the rain barrel. It holds 47 gallons, and can work as a single unit or in multiples. See *dwr.com*.

Having a lush, green garden is certainly a sight for sore eyes — but handling extra rain overflow is also imperative, especially in a large city where huge amounts of land are covered in paving, concrete and other impervious surfaces that do not allow water to absorb into the soil.

Goodness knows that a failure to handle extra stormwater can wreak havoc both at home and throughout a city — washing away soil and damaging plants, flooding basements, and overwhelming storm sewers, flooding low-lying areas and polluting the stormwater that eventually finds its way into rivers and lakes.

Not good for taxpayers, and certainly not good for the environment.

But don't despair. We've seen plenty of stylish opportunities that allow homeowners to do their part to handle that extra rainwater that often seems to come down in short, intense showers these days.

Here are a few great ideas to reduce the destructive effects of runoff:

Rain gardens

Consider a rain garden. A nice-sounding name for a lovely idea and good-looking addition to any garden, it is a planted depression designed to absorb excess runoff from hard surfaces like roofs, impervious paved driveways and walkways and compacted grassy areas.

It mimics a natural ecosystem that allows rainwater absorption rather than funneling it into storm sewers.

The plants are usually hardy native plants that can tolerate both dry and wet conditions, such as wildflowers, sedges, rushes, ferns, shrubs and small trees. Water is taken up by these plants, then filters down through the soil.

A rain garden should be located in a low spot so that runoff naturally flows down into this area. Even a small rain garden can be effective in handling excess rainwater. (See www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca for detailed instructions on how to create one.)

Drainage channel

Swales or shallow, grassy drainage channels (rather than a flat or sloped lawn) slows down the rate of flow so that water is more likely to absorb into the soil.

Rain barrels

Rainwater from your roof can also be directed into a rain barrel, from which you can water your plants or use it to irrigate.

But please do finish them in a pleasing fashion — old plastic olive barrels do the job, but they must be prettily dressed to make your garden look great, as it should.

Consider wood planking or fencing for an organic look, or latticework grown with vines to camouflage. Rain barrels may also be covered troughs custom-made of stainless steel or other metal finishes.

The possibilities are truly endless. But all rain collection devices should have tight covers to prevent mosquitoes, and they should have an overflow valve and a system to handle excess water.

Permeable paving

Another idea is to use permeable paving for your driveway and walks. The best way to allow rainfall to absorb is to use concrete paving stones with a centre hole.

These can look smashing with low-growing mosses and grasses planted in the holes. Other options include gravel, or open-jointed stones with gravel underneath, or permeable pavers — almost anything is better than solid paving or concrete.

Grow a green roof

A green roof is a great way to add greenery and lushness to an otherwise dull concrete jungle — and absorb some of the water that falls on your roof.

When these appear on numerous rooftops as they do in some urban areas of Germany, the visual effect on the cityscape is stunning.

It involves growing vegetation in a thin layer of soil on top of a waterproof membrane on a roof.

Contact your city's planning department for advice on building one in your area.

Tammy Schnurr and Jeffrey Fisher are hosts of Arresting Design on W Network.

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ZONE 4 — ANNE MARIE VAN NEST

Much ado about mulch

Gardeners are well versed in the benefits of mulch. But how much do we really know about what's in the mulch sold at garden centres? The U.S.-based Mulch & Soil Council raised the alarm in the early 2000s about arsenic in commercial mulch products after a joint University of Florida and University of Miami study found some bags on sale in Florida contained wood treated with chromated copper arsenate (CCA).

LILIAN GUO

This preservative, which gives old-style, pressure-treated wood used in decks and fencing that characteristic greenish tinge, was voluntarily phased out of consumer use in the U.S. and Canada at the end of 2003. But with home renovation booming, and some of this wood coming to the end of its lifespan, CCA-treated wood is entering the waste stream as construction and demolition detritus. According to the Mulch & Soil Council, if this particular waste is recycled and processed into mulch, the mulch may contain arsenic, as was found in Florida.

"Approximately 93 billion board feet of CCA-treated wood was sold for use in the U.S. over the last 30 years," says Robert LaGasse, executive director of the council. "Nobody envisioned that it would eventually be ground up and put in people's vegetable gardens... ."

In the U.S. there are now regulations to prevent CCA-treated wood from being used in this way. But the council isn't relying on them — it's doing its own independent testing, and runs a certification program for manufacturers.

In Canada, there are no national or provincial standards for mulch, and no industry association doing testing or certification. Bill McKague, owner of Gro-Bark, an Ontario-based mulch manufacturer, suggests it's up to consumers to educate themselves. "You need to make a distinction between bark and virgin-wood-based mulches and waste-wood-based mulches," he advises. The first two are made from forestry waste (i.e., bark left over from trees processed into lumber), whereas waste-wood-based mulch is less clear-cut and may include construction and demolition debris, which theoretically could be contaminated with CCA-treated wood and other wood products of concern, such as particleboard. Other manufacturers that do use waste wood for mulch, however, say a safe product is a matter of proper sourcing. "We go to extensive lengths to make sure we're using a quality raw material," says Brian Ainscough, sales and marketing manager of Eco Wood Products Ltd. of Concord, Ont..
— LORRAINE JOHNSON

FOTOLIA

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— ANDREW McLACHLAN

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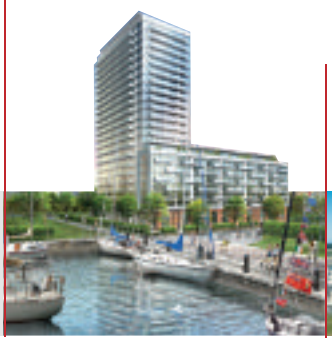

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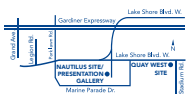

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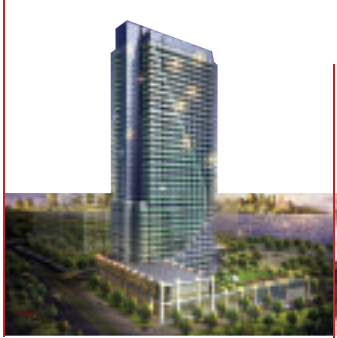

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Enhanced amenities adding bang for the condo buck

Zack Mishkin went all out to impress his girlfriend on the one-year anniversary of their romance.

He treated her to a professional massage in a poolside cabana at their Tempe, Ariz., apartment complex; champagne as they relaxed in a candle-rimmed hot tub; and a gourmet dinner he grilled by the pool. In her apartment, she found chocolate-covered strawberries, more candles, and rose petals forming a giant heart on her bed.

All this was engineered by the concierge staff at the complex, Grigio, one of a burgeoning number of places around North America that aim to provide the convenience of home and the comforts of a hotel.

From New York to San Francisco to Toronto, the amenities race is on among some high-end apartment and condominium buildings.

Never mind a gym and a doorman — how about turndown service, pet sitting, gift wrapping, a wine cellar or a private library?

Yours — for a price — as some residential builders add resort-like amenities, and hotel-industry players create residential properties. People "are just looking for the place that gives them the best bang for their buck," said Robert Goldstein, chief executive of Hospitality Consultants Inc.

AP PHOTO

Ritz-Carlton opened its first urban residential offering last November in San Francisco, above, similar to the one currently under construction in Toronto. Housekeeping is available twice daily, and concierges stand ready to tackle airport pickups, party catering, and even stocking the fridge.

The Boca Raton, Fla.-based hotel development firm increasingly gets calls from condo developers seeking advice on add-ons.

"The amenities and personal services at Grigio were the main reason I chose to live here," said Mishkin.

Perks include room and laundry service, in-home massages, pet grooming and outdoor movie showings on a rooftop deck.

Social events are free, but members pay for housekeeping, massages and other services.

Mishkin and girlfriend Katie Swilley, a furniture and equipment co-ordinator for a developer, rented separate apartments there earlier this year.

Many of their neighbours — often juggling work with classes at nearby Arizona State University — also put a premium on the complex's conveniences and pampering, said Claudia Giannetta, marketing director for Grigio builder Gray Development Group.

"You can kind of always be on vacation," she said.

Among the hotel-industry names expanding into luxury housing, meanwhile, is Ritz-Carlton, which opened its first urban residential offering in November in San Francisco.

It added eight floors to an 1890 stalwart that was once the tallest skyscraper west of the Mississippi River.

Housekeeping is available twice daily, and concierges stand ready to tackle airport pickups, party catering, even stocking the fridge.

"What separates us from buying an apartment somewhere else in the city is they do have access to those services," said Robert Phillips, senior vice-president of the Ritz-Carlton Club, the company's residential arm.

In New York, Nobu, the restaurant and hotel concern part-owned by actor Robert De Niro, announced plans in May for condos and a hotel in a 62-storey spindle in Manhattan's Financial District.

Nobu and developer Swig Equities envision giving residents access to a spa, screening rooms, private wine and sake cellars — and perhaps the biggest plum of all: room service from Nobu's sushi restaurant and a leg up in getting reservations.

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What's happening in the market?

With July behind us and August in full swing, our fair city's real estate market continues to be a hot topic of debate. If you're like most Torontonians, chances are that you've heard that the housing market is blowing up.

I've said it before and I'll say it again, real estate is just one of those things that everyone seems to have a strong opinion on, yet something very few are actually versed in. Here's the full story.

While it would be inaccurate to suggest that the market is continuing along the torrid pace of a year ago, it would also be ill-informed to offer that the market has gone soft. The facts are that total number of listings have gone up, and total number of successful sales have gone down.

The facts are also that there are fewer buyers and more sellers. Perhaps the most interesting and overlooked fact is that, despite all this, the average price when compared to the same time last year, has actually gone up all across the GTA.

When you understand all those facts it's easy to see how confusion in the market can arise.

Everyone is seeing numerous for-sale signs go up throughout their neighborhoods, many of which are due to prematurely panicked owners hoping to cash out before the so-called burst.

Yet with the decreased number of buyers, these for-sale properties are either remaining on the market or failing to sell. It's almost reasonable to assume that the market has turned for the worse.

However, when you factor in that sale prices are continuing to rise, you realize the full story — which is a continuing healthy market, albeit not a record-setting one.

So what does this mean to all you would-be sellers out there?

It means that achieving a staggering price on your modest home is much more unlikely than it was a year ago, although achieving fair market value is still more than possible. It also means that planning for multiple offers only makes sense if your home is of the exceptional variety.

As for you would-be buyers, you've managed to plow through the seller-favoured market of the past two years and you're in the driver's seat again.

As for you would-be buyers out there, congratulations! You managed to plow through the seller-favoured market of the past two years and you're in the driver's seat again, for the most part.

This means that the chance of you having to dish out a price for the home you love, that drives up the prices for all your neighbours, is less likely.

All in all we're at a leveling out phase where real estate is trading as it should — at fair market value. Sellers are being reasonable and buyers are paying reasonable prices.

The question of course becomes how long until sellers become desperate and buyers become exceedingly stingy. And to that I say we'd be anticipating a day without rhyme or reason. A healthy, normal, self-sufficient market is not, in and of itself, cause for concern. As I've mentioned before, look no further than the staggering, revolutionary Hullmark Centre by Tridel, set to release soon, for proof.

When compared to the troubles and prices of similar real estate markets across North America, the clearest answer shows Toronto has a ways to go before our prices can be considered "too high".

Rest easy my friends, and happy hunting to you all!

Amit is a Realtor/Developer with Re/Max. amitp@rogers.com

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metro homes 21

Be ready to compete

LegalMatters

Jeffrey D. Cowan
jeff@cowanandtaylor.com

Q Recently I was searching through the Multiple Listing Service (MLS) on the Internet and found a house that I was interested in purchasing. I called the selling agent and we arranged for a viewing. It was exactly what I was looking for and after a couple of further visits I put in an offer which was accepted by the vendor. I needed to arrange to get the deposit in certified funds and told the agent that I would contact my bank to set this up. When I called the next day to state that I had obtained the funds, the agent did not return my call. After a couple of repeated attempts to contact him, I learned that the house had been sold to another purchaser. What is my recourse as I really want the house?

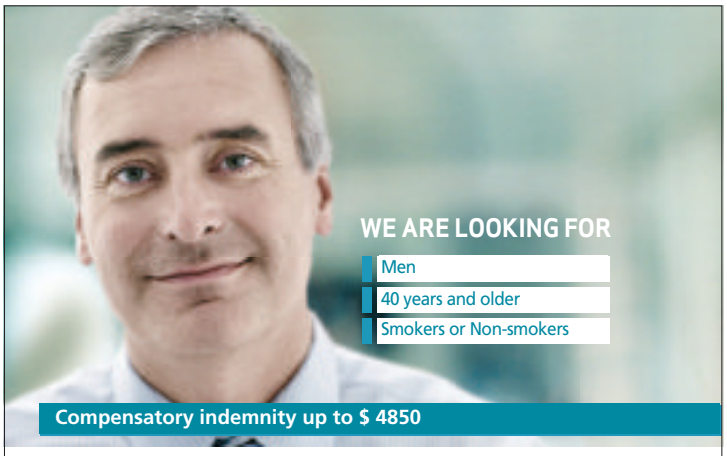
A Your question raises a number of interesting points. The first consideration is that the agent you were dealing with was acting as a dual agent by representing both the vendor and the purchaser.

There is no issue with this as long as a dual agency agreement is signed. However, inherently there is a conflict of interest because the agent is attempting to obtain the best purchase price for the vendor while making sure you pay the lowest price. Presumably, the successful purchaser offered more money for the house. One should consider obtaining separate agent representation even if you find the house and make the initial contact.

The second item to consider is that you may not have actually had a legally binding contract. If the standard form contract stated that you were to supply the deposit in certified funds on acceptance then until such time as the funds are provided, the contract is not complete. One could easily argue that the vendor was able to entertain other offers until all components of the contract had been complied with. Even then, you could put forward the allegation that there was a final agreement and it was just a matter of you getting to the bank. However, the situation had progressed such that the house was sold to another purchaser and due to close shortly. You have every right to take legal action and sue the vendor for specific performance: this being the sale of the house to you. This would probably require obtaining a certificate of pending litigation registered against title in order to stop the current transaction from being completed. The problem with all of this is that the process can be quite costly (thousands of dollars) and there are no guarantees of success.

The lesson to be learned is to have immediate access to your deposit funds if you are hunting for a new home in a competitive housing market.

Jeffrey D. Cowan is the principal of Cowan & Taylor, Barristers & Solicitors. Information contained in this article should not be relied upon as legal advice.



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Billy's Best Bottles
"Lazy afternoons in August are perfect for sipping on slightly sweet, Muscat wines. Well chilled, of course." Read Billy's Best Bottles column online at metronews.ca.

Food

"Resist the urge to strip back the husks for a peek. The husk is a natural wrapper, keeping it moist and fresh."
Barb Holland/Metro Canada

Fresh, fast
Try to buy corn as close to the field where it was picked and cook it as soon as you can.

EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

Summer corn stars in sidedish

À la carte

Barb Holland
Metro Food Writer

Does any vegetable say summer like corn on the cob? There are many ways to cook fresh corn. My preference is in the husk right on the barbecue, cooked until the husks are lightly charred and the kernels tender.

Should you have any corn leftover, try it in this recipe — ideal with grilled ribs.

Corn and Cheese Pudding

This is a good side dish for grilled ribs, chicken or pork. Kick it up with a few dashes of hot pepper sauce. Makes 4 servings.

INGREDIENTS:
- 1/2 red pepper, diced
- 2 green onions, sliced
- 2 tsp (10 mL) butter or vegetable oil
- 1/4 cup (60 mL) cornmeal
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) salt
- pinch pepper
- 1 cup (250 mL) milk
- 1 cup (250 mL) cooked corn kernels
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) shredded aged Cheddar cheese
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- Few dashes hot pepper sauce, if desired

METHOD:

In a microwaveable bowl, combine red pepper, green onion, butter or oil and microwave 2 to 4 minutes at High, or until softened.

In a 4 cup (1 L) round microwaveable bowl, whisk together cornmeal, salt, pepper and milk. Microwave, uncovered at High for 3 to 5 minutes or until mixture comes to a boil and thickens. Stir partway through cooking. Stir corn and cheese into cornmeal mixture until smooth. Stir in egg, red pepper mixture and hot sauce.

Microwave, uncovered at Medium (50%) for 4 to 6 minutes or until mixture is firm. Stir gently partway through cooking. Let stand about 5 minutes before serving.

Ribfest

- Get out the napkins and bibs! Toronto's best BBQers are back to compete for the title of Best Rib Recipe at the 2nd Annual CNE Ribfest. Happening on the first and second weekend of the fair, RibFest always draws a hungry crowd.
- Ribfest goes down in Bandshell Park, August 15-17 and 21-24, daily from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Metro is the official Daily Newspaper of RibFest, and Metro's own Enza Anderson will be a celebrity judge at RibFest.

Shredded cheese and cooked corn are the primary players in this savoury pudding — a great accompanying dish for juicy, grilled ribs, chicken or pork.

Tips:
- Storage: The sugar in corn starts to turn into starch the moment it is picked. If you must keep it, wrap in a plastic bag and refrigerate. Use within 2 days.
- Did you know? The average yield from a stalk of corn is usually 2, sometimes 3 cobs. An ear of corn averages 800 kernels in 16 rows.
- Good for you: Corn is a source of dietary fibre, potassium, thiamin, niacin, magnesium and folate.

Barb Holland is a professional home economist and food writer who believes in shopping locally and in season.

LET'S GO TO THE EX
AUG 15 - SEPT 1

How to get the most from tender fruit:
Select fruit that is firm and fragrant; remove immediately from the container in which it was purchased and sort according to ripeness; store ripe fruit in the refrigerator or enjoy right away; and to ripen firm fruit, store at room temperature in a loosely closed paper bag for a day or two. ONTARIO TENDER FRUIT PRODUCERS

Plant closure means fresh face of the future

The closure of Canada's last fruit canning plant in June has forced tender fruit farmers to make adjustments that will cause big changes in the marketplace, says an industry spokesman.

CanGro Foods Inc., which was based in the Niagara area, closed its doors forever June 27, so peach and other tender fruit producers whose trees produced crops for canning have been forced to turn to different varieties that are suitable for fresh consumption, says Len Troup, chairman of the Ontario Tender Fruit Producers.

"The industry is just changing and it basically means we are now a fresh market," he says.

Much of the fresh tender fruit from the Niagara region is sold in eastern Canada, with about 15 per cent in the Maritimes, 50 per cent in Ontario and 35 per cent in Quebec, says Troup. The remainder goes to the Prairie provinces, he adds.

With the closing of the canning plant, local canned fruit will be impossible to find. It will likely be replaced with canned fruits from China and other offshore countries, say industry watchers.

One solution for consumers is to preserve fresh produce they've purchased for use in the colder months.

"Preserving while local fruit is fresh is an excellent way to get the taste of summer all year long while ensuring that your family gets the best product available," says Helene Laurendeau, a Montreal dietitian and television host.

She says that she has noticed consumers seem to be turning to fresh fruits and vegetables and moving away from processed foods. "Now more than ever is the time for consumers to get back to the basics of healthier informed eating," she says.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Make your own fresh peach jam or try the juicy fruit with grilled pork

Classic Peach Preserves

This classic preserve recipe captures the fresh taste and aroma of locally grown peaches. It can be enjoyed immediately or during the cold chill of winter.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 l (4 cups) peeled, thinly sliced ripe peaches
- 1.5 l (6 cups) granulated sugar
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) lemon juice
- 1 pouch liquid fruit pectin

METHOD:

In a large saucepan, place alternate layers of peaches and sugar. Cover and let stand at room temperature for 4 to 6 hours. Add lemon juice.

Place over high heat and bring to a full rolling boil, stirring constantly. Immediately stir in liquid fruit pectin.

Bring to a full rolling boil and boil hard for 1 minute, stirring constantly. Remove from heat.

Stir and skim foam with metal spoon for 10 minutes to prevent floating fruit.

ONTARIOTENDERFRUIT.COM

Peach and Pork Brochettes

These are parcels of savoury bacon, pork and peaches for one delectable bite. Serve with a side salad for a light meal with little cleanup.

INGREDIENTS:

Brochettes:

- 12 slices bacon, cut in half widthwise
- 500 g (1 lb) pork tenderloin, cut into 2.5-cm (1-inch) cubes (about 24 pieces)
- 4 ripe fresh peaches, peeled, pitted and each cut into 6 pieces
- 8 skewers (25 cm/10 inches long)

Marinade:

- 75 ml (1/3 cup) maple syrup
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) extra-virgin olive oil
- 20 ml (4 tsp) Dijon mustard
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) roughly chopped rosemary
- 5 ml (1 tsp) kosher salt
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) pepper

METHOD:

If using wooden skewers, soak in water for 2 hours. Preheat barbecue to medium-high.

Wrap one strip of bacon around a piece of pork and peach slice. Thread onto skewer, piercing bacon to secure. Repeat two more times, threading 3 brochettes on each skewer.

In a small bowl, combine maple syrup, olive oil, Dijon, rosemary, salt and pepper; mix well.

Brush brochettes with half the marinade and place on grill for about 5 minutes per side, brushing with the remaining sauce throughout grilling. A good indication of doneness is when pork is slightly "springy" to touch or reaches an internal temperature of 71.1 C (160 F).

ONTARIOTENDERFRUIT.COM

LARRY CROWE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Individual angel food cakes have a whipped cream frosting and fresh fruit for these Summer Berry Angel Food Cakes.

Food for angels

Summer Berry Angel Food Cake

INGREDIENTS:

- 125 ml (1/2 cup) sifted plain cake flour
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) sifted sugar
- 6 large egg whites, at room temperature
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) cream of tartar
- 0.5 ml (1/8 tsp) salt
- 5 ml (1 tsp) vanilla extract
- 4 ml (3/4 tsp) lemon juice
- 7 ml (1 1/2 tsp) almond extract, divided
- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) heavy cream
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) powdered sugar
- 500 ml (2 cups) raspberries (or other fresh berry)

METHOD:

Adjust an oven rack to the lower-middle position and heat oven to 160 F (325 F). Lightly coat a 1.5-l (6-cup) mini Bundt pan with baking spray (a combination of flour and oil).

In a small bowl, whisk together flour and half the sugar. Set flour mixture and remaining sugar aside.

In a large bowl, use an electric mixer to beat egg whites on low speed until just broken up and beginning to froth. Add cream of tartar and salt and beat at medium speed until whites form very soft, billowy mounds.

With mixer still at medium speed, beat in remaining sugar, 15 ml (1 tbsp) at a time, until whites are shiny and form soft peaks. Add vanilla, lemon juice and 2 ml (1/2 tsp) of the almond extract. Beat until just blended.

Place flour mixture in a sifter set over waxed paper. Sift flour-sugar mixture over egg whites and use a large rubber spatula to gently fold in. Sift in any flour-sugar mixture that falls onto the paper.

Gently scrape batter into prepared pan, dividing it evenly between the cups and smoothing the top with a spatula. Give the pan a couple of raps on the counter to release any large air bubbles.

Bake until cakes are golden brown and the top springs back when pressed firmly, 45 to 50 minutes.

To cool, overturn the pan on a cooling rack and let cool for 2 to 3 hours.

Slide the tip of a paring knife around the edges of each cake to remove them from the pan. Set each on a serving plate.

To prepare whipped cream, in a large bowl use an electric mixer with the whisk attachment to beat cream, powdered sugar and remaining 5 ml (1 tsp) almond extract on high until stiff peaks form, about 4 minutes.

Use a large spoon to dollop whipped cream into the centre of each cake. Divide raspberries among cakes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Feline fashion show

Show cats dressed in everything from an Elvis costume to a sequined satin dress came to strut their stuff at New York's Algonquin Hotel. The feline fashion show was a benefit for an animal welfare group and honoured Matilda, the Algonquin's resident cat, who just turned 13. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Style

Madonna chooses Givenchy

French fashion house Givenchy says it is to dress Madonna for her upcoming Sticky and Sweet world tour. Givenchy spokeswoman Caroline Deroche-Pasquier says venerated label Givenchy Couture has made the pop star two ensembles. She said one is to be worn during the concerts' opening number. It's not immediately clear if other designers will also dress the star for the tour. THE ASSOCIATED PRESSS

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE COLACINO, ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Madly embracing '60s fashion

The '60s looks like the next era as an inspiration source to be plundered.

On the political front, Barack Obama is being touted as the new JFK, pop-culture pundits are anointing Carla Bruni-Sarkozy as a Jackie O figure and the fashion world seems to be taking style cues from the era, too. Both Michael Kors and John Galliano (in his Dior collection for fall), tapped the early '60s as points of reference.

But it's the television show Mad Men that is really bringing the 1960s into the spotlight.

The hit series, set in a Madison Ave. ad agency, is slick with style for both women and men.

The alpha males are making dressing for the office look good once again, with their immaculate suits, perfectly knotted ties, tortoiseshell glasses and fedoras.

The housewives and secretarial pool at the agency are also providing hits this fall at retail stores like Banana Republic. Expect to find chic fitted sheath dresses, little fur capelets, structured handbags and clutch purses, along with embellishments — statement necklaces and brooches for that dressed-for-the-office and cocktails-at-five attire.

While the show's fashions are being readily embraced by retailers and customers, let's hope those boozy lunches and perpetually lit cigarettes don't make it on the comeback list.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE WITH FILES FROM METRO NEWS SERVICES

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Hit TV series Mad Men is bringing the '60s back into the spotlight.

Piecing together the retro look

Amala Autumn Necklace, Banana Republic, $50.

Orange dress made of 100 per cent silk with lace detailing around the collar, H&M, $29.90.

Goorin Bros. fedoras, Harry Rosen, $60.

Hugo Boss 100 per cent silk ties, Harry Rosen, $120 each.

Steve Madden leopard print clutch, The Bay, $160.

Men's Infokus Whitman reading glasses in tortoise, $9.99. Available at PharmaSave.

Feather brooch, Swarovski, $190.

Kailey Patent Pump with three-inch heel, Payless, $29.99.

Luella charity tees at Aritzia

CLOTHING London designer Luella Bartley has created a limited edition series of four T-shirts, now available at Aritzia stores in Vancouver, Toronto and Calgary, for Tonic's Every T Counts. Tonic is a for-profit company that gives a portion of its proceeds to philanthropic programs, from children's dental care projects in Colombia to protecting coral reefs. Bartley's T-shirts sell for $52 and 30 per cent of each sale is donated to a Tonic cause. For example, proceeds from the sales of the Robin Tee will be used to buy a pair of sneakers for an impoverished student in Abricots, Haiti.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The limited edition Ribon Tee, $52. Available at Aritzia.

Fashion in brief

EMERGING FALL TRENDS

Menswear-inspired pieces for those interested in gender-bending designs with feminine flair are popping up everywhere this season. One particularly noteworthy item is the vest.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Read more online at metronews.ca

Read our StyleFile column by fashion expert Kim Elbo online. This week Kim discusses choosing the right dress and purse to wear to a wedding.

Burstyn joins Law & Order lineup
Oscar winner Ellen Burstyn has been cast as Detective Stabler's bipolar mother on Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. A source hints that Burstyn's visit to the series will be "explosive." TVGUIDE.COM

Entertainment

Billy revives Nightmare
Billy Bob Thornton will star as Freddy Krueger in a remake of the 1984 film Nightmare On Elm Street. IMDB.COM

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

TIFF to close with a caper

Stone of Destiny will wrap up this year's festival, organizers say

Stone of Destiny, about four Glasgow University students who hatched a plan in 1950 to retrieve the ancient coronation stone of the Scots from England, will close the Toronto International Film Festival.

The film stars Brenda Fricker (My Left Foot) and Robert Carlyle (The Full Monty, Angela's Ashes).

Festival co-director Cameron Bailey says the film "wills you over with its charm, its sense of mischief and its pure Scottishness."

The annual movie-lovers bonanza, which runs Sept. 4 to 13, also announced 20 special presentations yesterday, including films starring Jennifer Aniston, Adrien Brody, Mark Ruffalo, Colin Firth, Philip Seymour Hoffman and Catherine Keener.

Stone of Destiny has "sense of mischief," festival official says.

Among them is The Brothers Bloom, in which Brody and Ruffalo star as a pair of accomplished con men. Firth will star in an adaptation of the Noel Coward play Easy Virtue, alongside Jessica Biel and Kristin Scott Thomas.

Also screening at the festival will be Me and Orson Welles, an ode to the legendary director starring Zac Efron and Claire Danes. It's directed by Richard Linklater (School of Rock).

Zack and Miri Make a Porno, from director Kevin Smith, will have its world premiere at the festival. It stars Seth Rogen and Elizabeth Banks as lifelong friends facing hard times.

Acclaimed director Steven Soderbergh will be at the festival with Che: Part One and Che: Part Two. The first film tracks Che's rise in the Cuban Revolution, from doctor to commander to revolutionary hero, while the second looks at how he remains a symbol of idealism and heroism.

And Hoffman will be at the festival with Synecdoche, from director Charlie Kaufman. It also stars Keener, Dianne Wiest, Samantha Morton, Michelle Williams, Emily Watson and Hope Davis.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

In brief

CHARGED An actor who appeared in the hit film The 40-Year-Old Virgin was charged with attempted murder Tuesday after police said he stabbed his former girlfriend more than 20 times. Shelley Malil, 43, remained in custody on $2 million US bail. He was arrested late Monday as he left a train in Oceanside, Calif., the San Diego County Sheriff's Department said.

DEATH Isaac Hayes apparently died of a stroke, officials with the sheriff's department said this week. The deep-voiced soul singer died Sunday after he was found unconscious at his Memphis residence. No autopsy was performed, but paperwork filed by Hayes' family physician, Dr. David Kraus, lists the cause of death as a stroke, sheriff's spokesman Steve Shular said Tuesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mike Gordon

Album: The Green Sparrow
Label: Rounder
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕⊕

PHISH'S MIKE Gordon never got the same props as guitarist Trey Anastasio did, but there's no doubt the accomplished bassist was an integral part of the band. Just listen to his second solo album — it sounds like it was taken straight from his former group's catalogue. The Green Sparrow isn't nearly as quirky as his debut — which is a good thing — instead the Vermont-based rocker offers up an eclectic concoction of jazz and easy listening with loads of blistering solos. Anastasio and Phish keyboardist Page McConnell help out, but it's Gordon who shines.

Bryan Borzykowski

CDReviews

music@metronews.ca

Snailhouse

Album: Lies On The Prize
Label: Unfamiliar/Sonic Unyon
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕⊕

WHETHER SOMETIME Wooden Stars guitarist Mike Feuerstack has subconsciously tapped into his inner Tom Petty circa Wildflowers this time around, remains to be seen. But of all the recordings from Feuerstack's side project since 1994, this sixth effort veers closest to accessible smart pop. But what shines through all the understated simplicity are some charming ear-catching melodies, whip-smart writing and a well-placed rocker to break some of the acoustic excess.

Ian Nathanson

The Pack A.D.

Album: Funeral Mixtape
Label: Mint
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕

JUST BECAUSE THE blues rock duo section of the record store is getting overcrowded (White Stripes, Black Keys, etc…) doesn't mean one more fiery twosome can't be squeezed onto the shelf. Vancouver's Becky Black and Maya Miller, a.k.a. The Pack A.D, can't compete with The White Stripes, but there's still a lot to like about this band. Here, the group crank things up offering listeners a healthy dose of southern blues mixed with loud distorted guitars and bright vocal wails. While their axemanship could be better, this is still a fun record to rock out to.

Bryan Borzykowski

Mardeen

Album: Read Less Minds
Label: Aporia
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕

FOR SUCH A little place, Cape Breton has produced more than its fair share of great Canadian Celtic and country musicians. It was only a matter of time before some nerdy teen put down the fiddle bow and barricaded himself into the nearest garage with two cousins and some amp page to work out some really interesting indie rock. So it is with Mardeen's Read Less Minds, a debut album that has been apparently sitting on the shelf for two years waiting for a distributor. Can't wait to hear what this band sounds like now.

Graham Rockingham

Jonas Brothers

Album: A Little Bit Longer
Label: Hollywood/Universal
Rating: ⊕⊕

THERE'S NOTHING REALLY wrong with kids listening to this stuff. Every generation, going back to the Ricky Nelson kids of the '50s, has had to endure this kind of corporate brainwashing. Unfortunately, a few years from now our children will be waking up feeling oily and used. And one day, they'll grow up and be forced to admit that they pressured their parents into spending hundreds of dollars on Jonas Brothers CDs, tickets and merchandise. But, hey parents, you can say "No." Eventually they'll appreciate your actions. A Little Bit Longer is exactly how long this boy band will remain in the limelight.

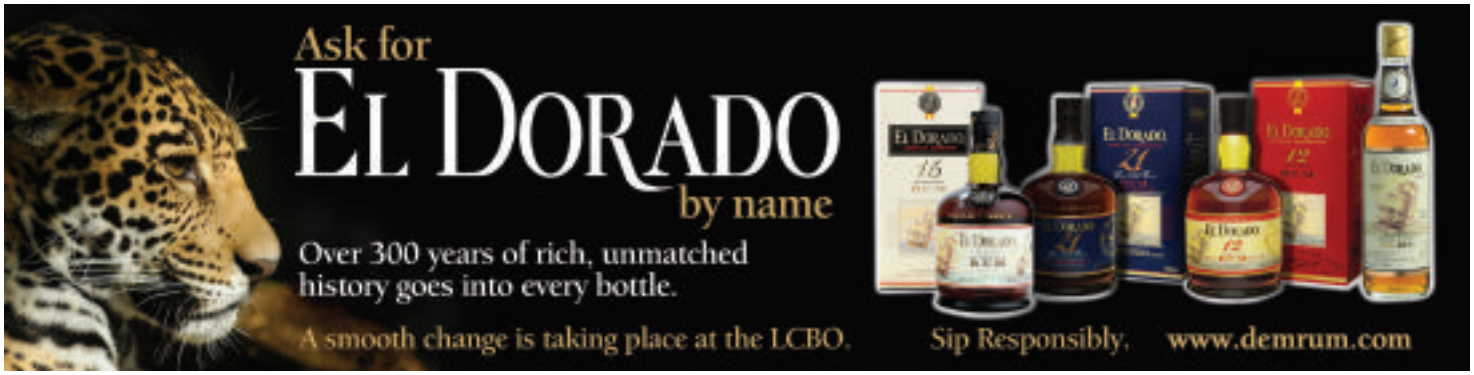
Graham Rockingham

Girlicious

Album: Girlicious
Label: Geffen/Universal
Rating: ⊕

YOU CAN TELL its the dog days of summer when the best the big labels can offer up is Girlicious,
The Backstreet Boys and the Jonas Brothers. At least the Jonas Brothers really are brothers.
Who knows what Girlicious is? A girl-group cloned from a previously cloned girl group?
Sooner or later the genetic line that produces perfectly formed bare midriffs has to start deteriorating.
The really scary thing about this album is that it could so easily fit onto the playlists of so many radio stations. But that's another story.

Graham Rockingham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Quaid sues over loan

Dennis Quaid is suing a man who reportedly owes him $70,000 US. The actor filed a lawsuit in Los Angeles which alleges Steven Mendelson owes Quaid the money after he didn't pay back a loan in 2001. IMDB.COM

Brandt, Pickler join awards show

MUSIC Country crooners Kellie Pickler, Paul Brandt and Gord Bamford are joining the lineup of performers set for the Canadian Country Music Awards. The awards will be broadcast from Winnipeg on Sept. 8. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rock hall of fame to open annex in N.Y.

The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame is coming to New York City.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg was expected to announce yesterday that the Cleveland-based museum and hall of fame is opening an annex in downtown Manhattan. It will be the first time the hall of fame has expanded outside Cleveland.

The 2,300-sq.-metre annex will house Bruce Springsteen's 1957 Chevy and will feature a number of exhibits, including one featuring New York City-based sites that have musical significance.

Museum officials are counting on the branches to provide new revenue streams, attract more philanthropy dollars and entice more people to visit the hall of fame in Cleveland, Ohio.

The New York annex will be open for at least two years. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

expansion

- Another annex being planned for Las Vegas will focus more on entertainment and less on rock artifacts.

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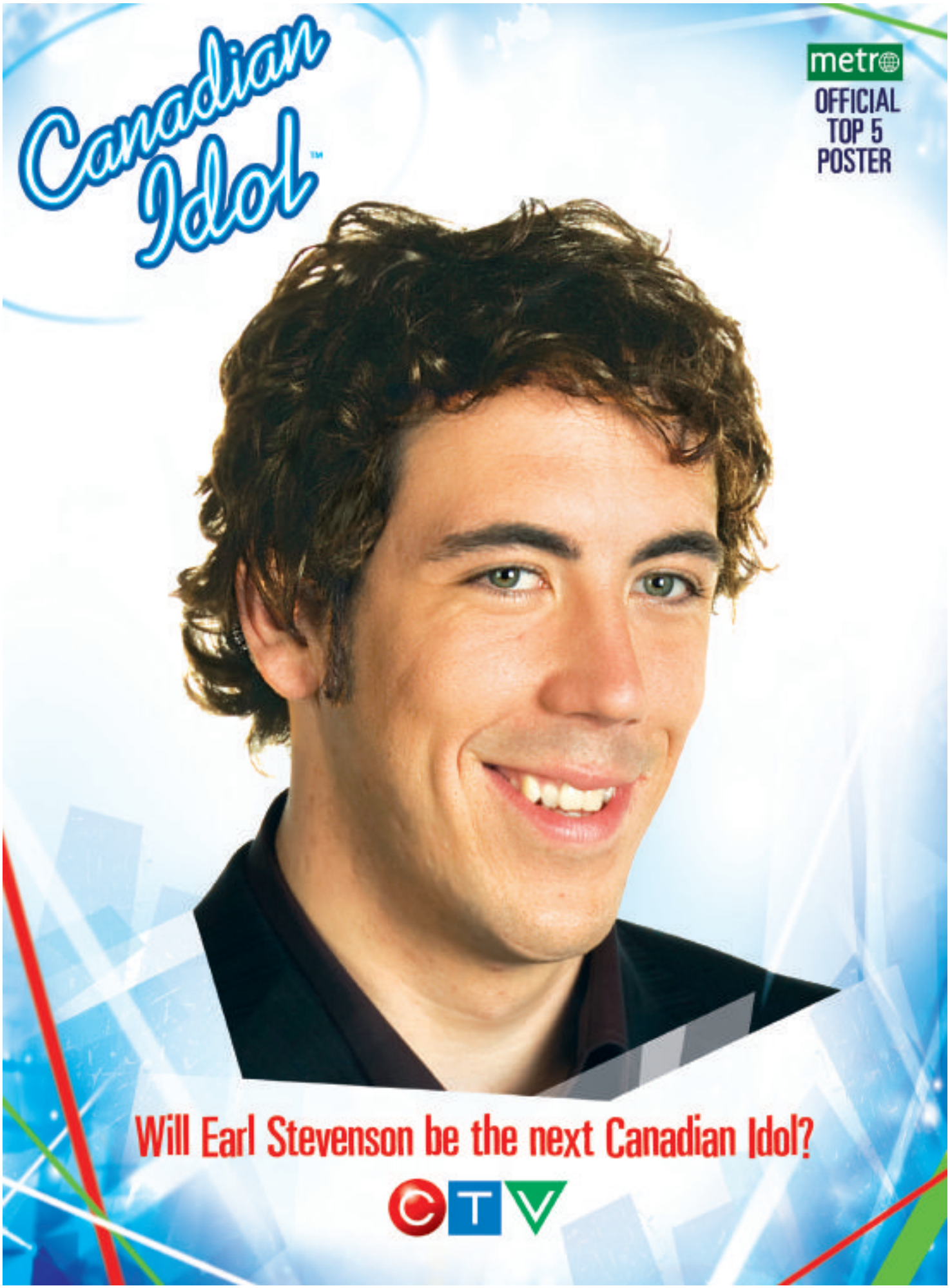
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"Batman" may put on Dancing shoes

Original Batman star Adam West is set for a stint as a contestant on hit U.S. talent show Dancing With The Stars. West, who played the Caped Crusader in the 1960's Batman TV show, is one of the stars shortlisted for the popular show. IMDB.COM

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West Wing creator takes blame

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MEAT CULPA. MEA MAXIMA CULPA: "I was wrong" are words you hear even less often than "I'm overpaid" in Hollywood, which is why a recent interview with West Wing creator Aaron Sorkin stands out in the overcrowded crop of celebrity media.

Sorkin was coming off a stellar run two years ago when he debuted Studio 60 On The Sunset Strip on NBC — one of two shows the network had on that fall's schedule that were set at a Saturday Night Live-esque comedy revue. Sorkin's show didn't, ending his winning streak with a messy crash.

Two years later, and with nothing new to his name right at the moment except a 10th anniversary box set of Sports Night, an earlier, more simmering flop he made at ABC, Sorkin took the blame for Studio 60 in an online interview with GQ. "I made too many mistakes," Sorkin said, looking back. "I would give anything to go back and get another bite of that apple."

"I was too angry when I wrote Studio 60. The show became like the cover of Abbey Road. Everybody was trying to figure out who this character was in real life or what that incident was trying to be. But the anger — it was a post-9/11 anger. We were going through a time when the television networks were so sensitive toward appearing patriotic. And patriotism was just being questioned all over the place. It just seemed like the wheels had come off our national culture."

Well at least Sorkin is willing to share the blame with the culture in which he was working, and America in general. Duly noted. With the floodgates opened, Sorkin goes on to discuss the recent Hollywood writers strike and his possible role in ending it after three months, during a dinner at House producer Paul Attanasio's place.

"We, that night, called the leadership of the Writers Guild," Sorkin recalled. "I know it sounds like a bunch of revolutionaries getting together to do the right thing, but you should know the dinner was catered. It's not like the old days."

While no one would describe a gathering where Sorkin and Attanasio were present as a bunch of revolutionaries, their recommendation to accept a deal with the studios was accepted shortly thereafter.

"It wasn't a strike we were passionate about," Sorkin said. "The fact of the matter is that people we all work with every day — and I'm talking about the 120 or so people on a movie set or a TV set, who are all the principal wage earners for their families — don't have the kind of bank accounts that can weather a strike like this. We'd been wrong."

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	-	-	14	-	Law & Order: SVU			News (N)		News (N)		King	King	Cold Case
	213	326	15	SUN	Scrubs	George Lopez		*The Breakthrough* ★★ (1994, Science Fiction)				To Serve and Protect		Grill Rm.
	-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood		Big Brother 10 (Live)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Flashpoint (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
	-	385	17	NBC	Entertainment	Olympic Zone		**XXIX Summer Olympics** (HDTV) (Live)						
	-	386	18	ABC	Bills Pregame	**NFL Preseason Football** Buffalo Bills vs. Pittsburgh Steelers. From Rogers Centre in Toronto.							Bills Postgame	News
	219	346	20	ACH-B	Wheel-Fortune	Degrassi: Next		Stargate SG-1 (DVS)		Grey's Anatomy (HDTV)		Private Practice		News (N)
	-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy	Two/Half Men		**NFL Preseason Football** Carolina Panthers at Philadelphia Eagles. (HDTV) (Live)						The Simpsons
	-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	Goodnight Swt.		Buildings & Other Roadside		Shore Things (DVS)		Out of Left Field: The Making		Business Rpt.
	297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy		Smallville "Descent"		Supernatural (HDTV)		CW11 News at Ten		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331	SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!		Dr. Phil		News (N)	Jeopardy!	Frasier	Frasier	Cheers
	298	653	332	TLA	Reba	Reba		My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Family Guy	Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Smallville
news	502	390	26	NW	CBC News	Beijing Today		The Hour (N)		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		National
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight			CNN Election Center		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	509	504	79	CNB	Asia Squawk Box			On the Money		Asia Squawk Box		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22	net	MLB Baseball St. Louis Cardinals at Florida Marlins. From Dolphin Stadium in Miami. (Live)							Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet Con.
	400	400	30	TSN	Interruption	CFL Pregame		CFL Football Hamilton Tiger-Cats at Winnipeg Blue Bombers. (HDTV) (Live)						SportsCentre
	411	457	58	OLN	Exploration	Videos		Coltrane's Britain		Mark Williams' Big Bangs		Don't Forget Your Passport		Pilot Guides
	417	406	81	SC	Pinks	Pass Time (N)		Pinks -- All Out		Pinks -- All Out (HDTV) (N)		Wrecked	Wrecked	Pinks (HDTV)
family	551	542	25	YTV	Malcolm-Mid.	Prank Patrol		Uh Oh!	Uh Oh!	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Falcon Beach		Mystery Hnt.
	554	544	45	TEL	George-Jungle	Tom & Jerry		Tom and Jerry	6teen	Total Drama	Futurama	*Aeon Flux* ★★ (2005, Science Fiction)		
	556	540	51	FAM	That's-Raven	Smart Guy		Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
cable variety	602	567	27	W	Will & Grace	Friends		Divine Design	House	Confidential	Save Us-House	Open House	Save Us-House	House
	570	580	29	MM	Instant Star	Instant Star		Muchmusic Countdown			Instant Star	Instant Star	MuchTopTens	
	615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami "Legal"			The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		Crime 360
	700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24		I Giorni del Commissario Ambrosio (Italian).				The Sopranos (SS)		Raymond
	571	581	36	MMM	mmmtop	Back In		Canadian Idol Top six.		Canadian Idol	Uncovered	Celebracadabra		Canadian Idol
	575	583	38	CMT	(6) **Ultimate** "Destination"			Karaoke Star "Calgary, AB"		Reba	Hope & Faith	Home Improve.	Roseanne	Karaoke Star
	616	521	39	SHO	ReGenesis "Let It Burn"			Intelligence (HDTV)		G-Spot	Exes & Ohs	Secret Diary	Secret Diary	House
	620	523	40	BVO	From the Spirit	In the Mind ...		Hands-Michel Tremblay		*Glengarry Glen Ross* ★★★ (1992, Drama) Al Pacino.				Law & Order
	601	562	41	SLC	End of Leash	Til Debt-Part		Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Last 10	Bulging Brides	The Biggest Loser		Rich Poor
	522	506	43	HIS	NCIS "Bait"			Cities of the Underworld		Cities of the Underworld		NCIS "Bait"		Crime Stories
	625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes		Laughs	Rick Mercer	The Simpsons	South Park	Reality Bites	Comedy Net	Daily Show
	600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin		Holmes on Homes		The Fix	Disaster DIY	Junk Brothers	The Big Flip	Holmes-Homes
	294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy		Friends	Friends	*Jurassic Park III* ★★ (2001, Adventure) Sam Neill.				Seinfeld
	576	582	49	BET	106 & Park	Hell Date		Black Carpet	Access	*State Property 2* ★★ (2005, Crime Drama) Beanie Sigel.				Hell Date
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate SG-1			Star Trek: Voyager		*Swarmed* (2005, Suspense) Michael Shanks, Ellen Dubin.				Stargate SG-1
	581	566	52	MTV	Next	Cribs		Canada's Next Top Model		Living on Edge	Living on Edge	True Life (N)		MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	Inside Hollywood			ET Canada	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier	Family Guy
	603	561	56	FOOD	Boy Grill	Licence to Grill		Restaurant Makeover		Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Secret Life of	Secret Life of	Ace of Cakes
	261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote			Fun-Funeral	Keeping Up	Elvis Lives				Islam in China
	621	527	63	STR	Look-A-Like	Hollywood		TMZ (N)	Madonna 10	Katie & Peter: Next Chapter		The Ellen DeGeneres Show		Madonna 10
	553	546	65	TRE	Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Nght Grdn		The Wiggles	Franklin	Little Bear	Miss Spider	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears
	115	711	101	TVA	*Trois sur un sofa* ★★ (1966, Comédie) Jerry Lewis.					Héros "Parasites" (HDTV)		TVA 22 heures	Sucré-salé	*Garage Days*
	126	730	102	RDI	RDI en direct	400 fois Qué		Grands reportages Père. (SC)		Le Téléjournal	Chine	Le Téléjournal	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	526	507	249	CLT	The West Wing			*A Change of Place* (1994, Drama) Rick Springfield.				Traders		The West Wing
	300	601	301	M1	(7:15) *Christie's Revenge* (2007, Drama) Danielle Kind.					*Things We Lost in the Fire* ★★★ (2007, Drama)				*Thank You*
	305	612	306	PIX	(6:50) *Arizona* ★★★ (1940, Western) Jean Arthur.					*Lethal Weapon 3* ★★★ (1992, Action) Mel Gibson.				*Lethal Wpn. 4*

critics'corner

Glengarry Glen Ross
An impressive ensemble of Oscar winners and wannabes fills the beat-up shoes of David Mamet's struggling real estate salesmen in the film version of his play. Al Pacino earned an Oscar nomination for his portrayal of Ricky Roma, the closest thing to a winner in this band of losers, who are all facing the ax if they don't sell something soon. Jack Lemmon shines as Shelley Levene, a once-great salesman who hasn't made a deal in years. 9 PM on BVO

Things We Lost in the Fire
C'mon over! Bring beer! Halle Berry stars in this 2007 drama as Audrey, a young widow who allows her recently deceased husband's druggie best friend (Benicio Del Toro) to stay with her and the kids. The close physical proximity leads to a bond that helps her to get closure and him to deal with his addiction. David Duchovny, Alexis Llewellyn and Micah Berry co-star. 9 PM on M1

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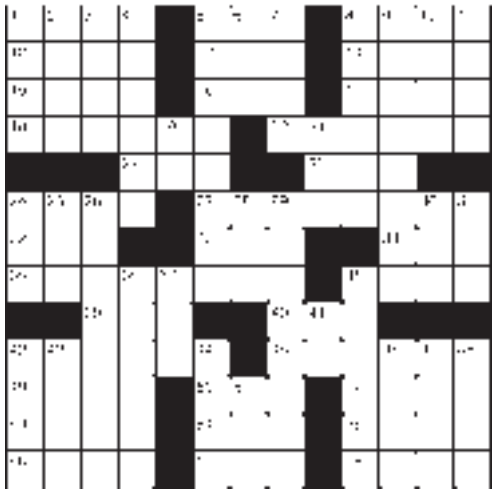
Beauty and the Jock

Former model Rachel Hunter is engaged. The 38-year-old has been dating Canadian ice hockey star Jarret Stoll for two years. The couple reportedly plan to wed next year. IMDB.COM

Take Five



Crossword down

1 Brewery output
2 Zits
3 Stylish
4 Alaskan island
5 Napoleon's downfall
6 McKinley's first lady
7 Frat-party garb
8 Atomic clock element
9 Disembarkation site
10 Caspian Sea feeder
11 Catch sight of
19 Circle ratio
21 Scoundrel
24 Torme or Tillis
25 Savings-plan acronym
26 Cellphone alternative
28 Schedule abbr.
29 Full exposure
30 "Flying Down to —"
31 St. Bernard's burden
36 Jenny Craig patron
37 Meadow
38 Belt fastener
41 Yours truly
42 Hunger throe
43 Medley
44 Present time?
46 Tense
47 Actress Jessica
48 Rod partner
51 Barcelona bear

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Crossword across

1 Dorsal area
5 Humour
8 Hint
12 Reverberate
13 Commotion
14 Dumbo's "wings"
15 Oklahoma city
16 Playground game
17 Child's play
18 Cookbook entry
20 With tartness
22 Melody
23 "Ariadne — Naxos"
24 Coconut juice
27 Historical building
32 Pitching stat
33 Sch. named for an evangelist
34 Whopper
35 Fred Mertz, e.g.
38 Web journal
39 Conk out
40 Cassowary kin
42 Old-fashioned bladed weapon
45 Ambrosia eater's quaff
49 Settled down
50 Larry's pal
52 Hardy cabbage
53 Prime-time hour
54 Fool
55 Garage task
56 No stay-at-home
57 "Mayday!"
58 List-ending abbr.

previous day's answer

L	I	M	O	■	T	U	B	■	G	U	F	F
A	M	O	S	■	E	T	A	■	O	R	A	L
S	P	A	T	■	M	A	T	■	A	G	U	E
■	S	T	R	A	P	■	■	E	L	E	N	A
■	■	■	I	N	T	E	N	T	■	■	■	■
C	H	I	C	A	■	J	O	E	■	S	A	G
O	U	C	H	■	K	E	G	■	L	A	M	A
N	T	H	■	B	I	C	■	O	A	S	I	S
■	■	■	U	N	T	I	D	Y	■	■	■	■
D	R	I	E	S	■	■	M	E	A	L	S	■
O	U	S	T	■	T	A	B	■	W	E	A	K
O	D	I	N	■	E	M	U	■	A	N	N	E
M	E	S	A	■	A	Y	E	■	Y	O	D	A

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
A friend calls to demand political action. Don't cause headaches by being too insistent. A feeling of loss will dissipate.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
A friend calls to demand political action. Don't cause headaches by being too insistent. A feeling of loss will dissipate.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Agreements are damaged by an outlandish plan. Make sure everyone knows where you are. Get information on a suspicious person.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Be firm with a disappointed friend. Strange games are afoot. Mental activity results from a maniacal misfortune.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
A loving interlude can be magnificent. Take a leadership role in group activities. Things will go bump in the night.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
A birthday party can lead to romance. A forced change is frustrating. Dealing with brokers leads to reduction of reserves.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A charming person gives a reason to cheer up. Someone's attraction goads you into taking action. A lucky break comes at last..

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24- NOV 22
Risk-taking can't be avoided. A co-worker gets an unexpected bonus. You may have to cancel a planned rendezvous.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23- DEC 21
You want to escape but there's too much to do. A lost person takes priority over your needs. An issue of crudeness erupts.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
An aching back gets your attention. A secret message makes everything topsy-turvy. A mix-up causes a hurried departure.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
Wading through banality will tire you. Menial chores can cause depression. Go to someone else's place to play.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MAR 20
A grinning girl jumps to conclusions. An authority figure is responsible for a strange response. Others are surprised by your ideas.

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Sudoku

8			6	1				
4				9		1	2	
	6				5			
1						6	4	9
			3		8			
2	7	4						5
			5				8	
	1	3		8				4
				2	1			3

HOW TO PLAY SUDOKU:
The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

previous day's answer

1	5	9	3	2	4	6	7	8
6	4	7	5	8	1	9	2	3
2	8	3	6	7	9	4	1	5
7	3	4	1	9	2	5	8	6
5	6	2	7	3	8	1	9	4
9	1	8	4	5	6	2	3	7
8	7	1	2	6	5	3	4	9
3	2	6	9	4	7	8	5	1
4	9	5	8	1	3	7	6	2

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME IN MINUTES:

Under 13. . . . . Genius
13-17 . . . . . Scholar
17-21. . . . . Smart
21-25. . . . . Not bad
25+ . . . . . Keep practising

more games metronews.ca

Toronto weather

Afternoon	Tonight	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
40%		40%		
Thunder-showers. 23°	Partly cloudy. 15°	Thunder-showers. 24°/15°	Partly cloudy. 25°/16°	Partly cloudy. 24°/14°

The Weather Network theweathernetwork.com

Temperature Normals
High: 26.8°
Low: 14.5°

Records
High: 35°/1944
Low: 7.8°/1964

Sunrise: 6:22 a.m.
Sunset: 8:22 p.m.
Moonset: 3:41 a.m.
Moonrise: 7:24 p.m.

TWN incorporates MSC data

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The Weather Network

Grenier relationship grinds to a halt

Actor Adrian Grenier and his girlfriend, Transformers 2 star Isabel Lucas, have broken up. The pair split about three weeks ago. "It wasn't working out," says a source. PEOPLE.COM

Celebrity Buzz

Scarlett speaks up for older actresses

CASTING Scarlett Johansson has criticized Hollywood's treatment of older actresses, insisting many women see their careers "wilt" once they get past a certain age, imdb.com reports.

The 23-year-old star is furious that a majority of the film industry is dependent on looks, and blasts movie bosses for ignoring the talents of mature actresses.

Johansson insists that the rule doesn't apply to men — as male actors don't lose popularity with casting directors as they get older.

"Women kind of wilt as men achieve as they get older, like wine. It's like, 'Oh she's past her prime and can't play a sex symbol.' It's just a preconceived notion about women in general and particularly in this industry. It's a very, very vain industry," she says.

Johansson is adamant that she is not as attractive in real life, because she is caked in makeup for all of her film roles.

"My hair and makeup artists spend hours upon hours plastering things on me to make me look sexier," she says.

"I think it's rare that you feel beautiful."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Harsh words for Moss

MODELS Fashion designer Roberto Cavalli has launched a scathing attack on model Kate Moss, describing her as a professional clothes horse, imdb.com reports.

The fashionista, who uses the model in his campaigns, claims Moss has no star quality.

"There are thousands of models like all the other thousands of models," Cavalli says.

"Naomi Campbell is the same way. For me, models are just pieces of wood that I carve to make clothes look beautiful."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Amy, Marilyn nightmarish

POLL Amy Winehouse and Marilyn Manson have been voted the celebrities who British people have the most nightmares about, Ananova.com reports.

Winehouse appears in more recurring night terrors than any other celebrity, closely followed by goth-shocker Marilyn Manson, the new survey by hotel firm Travelodge shows.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Not again for Jen!

RELATIONSHIPS Jennifer Aniston has reportedly been dumped by her rocker boyfriend John Mayer, imdb.com reports.

The pair became romantically linked earlier this year, with the actress claiming she was happier than ever with her new beau, stating, "Being in love makes you happy."

But the union appears to have broken down, with Mayer allegedly telling Aniston he can't commit to her.

"They initially opted for a break, hoping a trial split might make them stronger. Sadly, it doesn't seem to have worked," a source tells the Daily Mirror.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

celebrity brief

Hilton being sued

COURT Paris Hilton is being sued by a company that alleges the socialite owes them $75,000 US for not fully promoting a movie she starred in, imdb.com reports.

Worldwide Entertainment Group Inc. filed a lawsuit in Miami last week, alleging that the 27-year-old owes them the sum for not fulfilling promotional obligations.

The hotel heiress is said to have entered into an agreement in 2004 for the production and distribution of the movie National Lampoon's Pledge This!, in which she starred, according to the lawsuit.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Hayden, Japan friends again

POLITICS Actress Hayden Panettiere has been given the all-clear to return to Japan after an arrest warrant was issued for her following an anti-whaling protest there last year, imdb.com reports.

Last November, the Heroes star joined animal rights activists in a protest against the slaughtering of dolphins in the historic whaling town of Taiji, Japan, prompting local authorities to issue a warrant for her arrest.

But Japanese Foreign Minister Masahiko Komura has personally welcomed the actress back to the country, telling her she has nothing to fear.

Panettiere tells HollyScoop.com, "I think they did it (issue an arrest warrant) to pretty much scare us from coming back.

"I went and had a meeting with the foreign minister and he said I was welcome anytime. Very kind man. Very welcoming, and he said I was his most welcome guest, so there's a shocker."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

No biz for Brit's boys?

CAREER Britney Spears says she prefers if her two sons don't pursue show business, MSNBC reports. "I'd rather not," Spears told OK! magazine.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Geri can't commit?

CAREER Geri Halliwell says she's not sure she can commit to a man, femalefirst.co.uk reports" "I think maybe I am a commitment-phobe."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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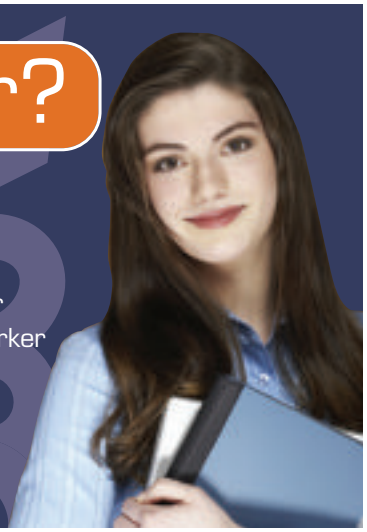

Splitsville for Tyler, Harrah
Almost a year after model Mia Tyler gushed about her engagement to guitarist Brian Harrah, the former Celebrity Fit Club star says that she and her fiancé have split up. **PEOPLE.COM**

Celebrity Buzz

Cruz? Beautiful?

BEAUTY Actress Penelope Cruz doesn't think she is beautiful, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Cruz insists despite being one of the world's most famous sex symbols, she doesn't think she is attractive.

"I don't think I am beautiful," she says. "I can look good and I can look ugly. What's funny is that when I was younger, I wanted everyone to look at me. Now, I like to watch other people because you can learn a lot of interesting things."

Cruz, who is dating Oscar-winning actor Javier Bardem, also revealed she has no plans to marry the star.

"I don't know if I believe in marriage," she added to Parade.com.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Cruise too pricey

CASTING Tom Cruise's role in Edwin A. Salt has reportedly been recast for Angelina Jolie because studio bosses fear he has grown too old to play a movie hero, imdb.com reports.

According to the New York Post, Cruise, 46, is no longer as marketable and has become too expensive.

A source tells the newspaper, "Cruise is begging for (Mission Impossible: 4) but Paramount wants a younger, cheaper guy."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Kravitz has no plans to join Velvet Revolver

MUSIC Lenny Kravitz is still denying that he's set to join supergroup Velvet Revolver, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The singer fuelled speculation he'll be Scott Weiland's replacement in the band after he joined Slash and his mates in the studio.

However, Kravitz won't be fronting Velvet Revolver any time soon as he tells RollingStone; "I know and love the Velvet Revolver guys, but there is no truth to the story about me joining their band."

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Kravitz isn't the only singer linked to the band — former Skid Row star Sebastian Bach and Spacehog's Royston Langdon have also been named as possible Weiland replacements.

Weiland was reportedly kicked out of the band in April after fighting with his bandmates.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Low-key love for LiLo

RELATIONSHIPS Actress Lindsay Lohan and her close friend Samantha Ronson have vowed never to talk about their relationship, insisting it is a "private matter," imdb.com reports.

The pair has often been photographed holding hands and cuddling, leading to speculation that they are more than friends.

DJ Ronson insists the way their relationship has been documented in the media is often incorrect, but she refuses to clear up rumours they are a couple.

"I stay away from the tabloids. I'm not going to talk about Lindsay because she's my friend, you know? She's great. She's also 22 years old. I think people forget that," she tells Harper's Bazaar. "With the Internet the way it is, one second we're enemies, one second we're best friends, one second we're lovers, and then we're broken up."

And Lohan has also broken her silence about her relationship with the 31-year-old — but only to insist that she will never divulge any of their secrets.

Referring to Ronson's family, she says in an e-mail to the publication, "I love the Ronsons. They're close to my heart … Samantha and my relationship is a private matter."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Hathaway happy

STATUS Anne Hathaway says being considered a sex symbol is an "unexpected" pleasure, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

"It's unexpected that anyone could think I'm a sex symbol. I think that anybody who went to high school with me would be very surprised!" the actress said. "I'm so happy I'm a 25-year-old working actress and that now people are starting to say I have brains. I always thought people believed I could only do one thing."

Hathaway said she got into acting after being encouraged by her parents."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Garth takes Tori's side

TELEVISION Jennie Garth is "disappointed" her former Beverly Hills, 90210 co-star Tori Spelling won't be a part of the TV show's remake, and she's upset by reports a salary feud was to blame for her pal's decision to quit, imdb.com reports.

Garth, who reprises her role as Kelly Taylor on the revamped 90210, was looking forward to working with Spelling again and was upset to hear the actress, who was set to return as Donna Martin, had quit the project.

She tells Ew.com she's disappointed by online reports Spelling dropped out of the new U.S. series after failing to land the payday Garth and Shannen Doherty were offered to reprise their characters from the original show.

"The press thinks we're at war over salary with Tori. I didn't know I was at war with Tori," Garth says. "I'm really bummed because I love Tori and I was psyched Tori was going to be on the show. I think she should definitely get paid as much as either of us is getting paid. Her father created the show. It just seems wrong if that's the case. I don't know what really happened because I haven't talked to her."

Spelling reportedly quit the new show after she discovered Garth and Doherty had been offered double her salary.

But Doherty disputes the figures. "They didn't even get the numbers right, so I don't know if it's about the money."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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